



## THE MADOC MERCURY

AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

A Weekly Journal of Local and General Information.

Will be Published every Saturday Morning, at Ten Cents a Copy, or One Dollar a Year, STRICTLY IN ADVANCE.

ADVERTISEMENTS WILL BE INSERTED ON THE FOLLOWING TERMS FOR CASH:—

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For sale at WILSON'S MEDICAL HALL, Madoc, where Subscribers in and near the village may obtain their copies, and orders for the paper and advertisements will obligingly be received.

SUBSCRIPTIONS PAYABLE YEARLY OR QUARTERLY IN ADVANCE.

## DEATH OF EX-CHIEF JUSTICE ROBINSON.

The Toronto Leader, of Monday, announced the death of Sir John Beverly Robinson, Ex-Chief Justice of Up. Canada, and its columns appeared in mourning on the occasion. The deceased, who was a most excellent man and distinguished lawyer, was born on the 26th of July, 1791. His loss will be generally deplored throughout the Province, and especially in Upper Canada.



## THE MADOC MERCURY

MADOC, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7.

## INTENSE COLD.

The mild weather was terminated on Sunday last by a high wind, which was followed by a clear sky and intense cold, which was at its extreme probably on Tuesday night. On Wednesday morning, at 8 o'clock, we understand that the thermometer at Mr. H. Seymour's, in this village, indicated 37 degrees below zero! On Thursday forenoon, a heavy fall of snow commenced, which, by yesterday afternoon, averaged from a foot and a half to two feet in depth.

## MISSIONARY MEETING.

The Western Deputation nominated by the Lord Bishop of Ontario, consisting of the Revs. W. Bleasdel, M.A., Rector of Trenton; G. A. Anderson, B.A., Missionary to the Mohawk Indians, Tyendinaga; J. A. Preston, Incumbent of Stirling; P. Toque, Incumbent of Sydenham; and P. W. Loosmore, Curate of St. George's Cathedral, Kingston, held the first missionary meeting in connection with the Diocese in the Town Hall, Madoc, on Friday evening, the 30th ult.—the Rev. Albert Whitmarsh in the chair.

Mr. Whitmarsh made a few preliminary observations on the missionary work now going on, and afterwards introduced the Deputation to the meeting. The following Resolutions were then moved and carried unanimously:

1st. Moved by the Rev. Mr. Anderson, and seconded by the Rev. Mr. Preston:—

"That it is the duty of all Christians to aid in carrying out the objects of the Missionary Board of the Synod of the Diocese of Ontario, both by their alms and their prayers."

2nd. Moved by the Rev. Mr. Toque, and seconded by Robert H. Breakell, Esq., Churchwarden:—

"That this meeting acknowledge the necessity and privilege of extending the Missionary work of the Church in the different and distant outposts and stations of the Diocese."

3rd. Moved by the Rev. Mr. Bleasdel and seconded by Wm. H. Tamely, Esq., Churchwarden:—

"That the efforts of Churchmen at home should act as an example to those of this Diocese."

4th. Moved by the Rev. Mr. Loosmore, seconded by Major Findlay:—

"That a Committee be appointed to solicit subscriptions to the Missionary Fund."

The Hall was crowded by an intelligent and respectable audience, who listened with deep attention to the stirring addresses of the Rev. Gentlemen who moved the several resolutions.

At the close of the proceedings, Mr. Tumely moved, seconded by Mr. Breakell, "that a vote of thanks be given to the Deputation," which was carried unanimously. The Rev. Mr. Bleasdel then dismissed the meeting by pronouncing the benediction.

The collection taken up amounted to eight dollars.

## COMPLIMENTARY SUPPER TO THE WARDE.

On Wednesday evening a complimentary supper was given by the inhabitants of the Township of Madoc to A. F. Wood, Esq., in honour of his election to the distinguished position of Warden of the County of Hastings. The company assembled at L. Moon's hotel, and notwithstanding the day was by far the coldest of the season, about seventy persons—including some of the oldest and most respected residents of the township—were present. Among them we noticed—

Messrs. M. P. Hayes, T. Agar, James O'Hara, B. Vankleeck, Emo, Richardson, Dale, Tumely, P. Vankleeck, Moore, Carpenter, Breakell, Judd, Majors James and Findlay, Messrs. Bacon, sen., S. Ross, W. W. Cork, E. Franklin, E. Mounsey, G. D. Rowe, Charles Green, John A. Duff, James Fitzgerald, J. S. Fitzgerald, Bateman, Job Lingham, Henry Cook, E. D. O'Flynn, Dr. Elmer, A. Elmer, R. B. O'Flynn, A. Wright, H. Petit, R. P. Young, Thos. Allen, Mark Runnings, John Weir, A. Gonsolus, D. Nicholson, John McGoy, J. R. Ketcheson, Jephtha Bradshaw, G. Neville, R. Bacon, G. S. Frise, D. L. Cummings, &c.

The supper room was decorated with flags, bearing the inscriptions "Wood and Agriculture for ever," "North Hastings and Madoc for ever," and the picture of a beaver, with "Canada" on a scroll beneath, and the legend, "Non Mutat Genus Solam."

The chair was filled by M. P. Hayes, Esq., supported by THOMAS AGAR, Esq., as Vice; and JAMES O'HARA, Esq., presided at the second table, with B. VANKLEECK, Esq., at the foot.

The supper having been duly discussed, the Chairman announced that letters regretting their inability to participate in the enjoyment of the evening had been received from Dr. Bonter, of Stirling, and Messrs. Bower, B. Flint, Appleby and Shen.

The first toast, "The Queen," was then proposed by the Chairman, and received with loyal enthusiasm, Mr. Breakell singing "God Save the Queen," heartily joined by all present.

"The Governor-General of Canada," was given by the Vice-Chairman, who spoke of him as possessing all the requisites to make him beloved by the people of Canada. The toast was duly honoured.

"The Army and Navy" followed. After a song by Dr. Elmer, "The Red, White, and Blue,"

Major JAMES, whose name has been coupled with the name of the late Sir John Robinson, distinguished himself in the battle of the Marston in compliance with the wishes of the company. He took some length, eloquently and rapidly sketching the achievements in arms of the British race, from the days of Julius Caesar, when they were mere painted barbarians—in the Crusades, the wars of the Edwards and Henry in France, of the Boons of Marlborough—not forgetting to bear testimony to the valour of the Scotch and Irish as well—in the Peninsular war, the Crimean war, the Indian mutiny. Incidentally he mentioned that he had frequently in his youth played around the figure heads of some of the ships of the Spanish Armada wrecked off the West coast of Ireland; and amidst loud applause he remarked the singular fact that that very evening was the centenary anniversary of thecession of Canada to England by France.

Song by Mr. James Fitzgerald—"The Boys of Kilkenny."

The CHAIRMAN then said the real toast of the evening was coming, and that it called for an enthusiastic demonstration. Madoc was justly proud of the position which her son occupied that day. He dwelt on the wide extent, the varied resources of the County of Hastings—one of the, if not the, largest counties in Canada—and of the importance of the office of its Warden. Madoc had proved that she possessed much of judgment, by their selecting the "right man for the place;" and the people of the township honoured themselves in honouring him. All looked upon Mr. Wood as well worthy to fill the chair he occupies as Warden. He was one of those men who advance their own interests by selecting those classes of enterprises which also advance the interests of the county. These are the men we ought to honour, and by so doing also induce others to follow in their footsteps. The occasion was a proud one for Madoc—one which a few years ago could not have been expected. Then Madoc was almost unknown; now it is certainly the most important village in Hastings next to the county town. The Chairman, concluded by proposing the health of A. F. Wood, the Warden of the county of Hastings.

After the enthusiastic demonstration the Chairman had foreseen would follow, the toast had subsided.

The WARDE, who on rising was again greeted with loud applause, said that he rose with mingled feelings of regret and pleasure to respond—of regret because he felt it impossible to return thanks in a proper manner—with pleasure, as on looking round he saw so many with whom his interests were identified. Not many came home so keenly to him as the full approbation of his conduct by his friends. By her farmers, merchants and mechanics, Madoc has now the honour of being the first township in enterprise in the county. But they must not forget he was placed in the position of Warden by the aid of his friends in other townships—one of whom, Mr. Emo, he was glad to see present, and hoped to see yet in the same position. He (Wood) felt the full responsibility of being Warden. The County was in the very first rank in maintaining its credit—its debentures stand as high as any in Canada. Look at Hastings—going through the leading arteries from the front to the backwoods—and can any county be imagined of greater dimensions or brighter prospects in the future. In conclusion, Mr. Wood said he felt very grateful for the flattering reception they had given him, and in his official capacity should endeavour to so discharge his duties that they would never regret placing him in the position. But he wished them to understand, he was not a sectional Warden—he owed his election to other townships besides Madoc—and yet he was as proud of his position of Reeve of Madoc as of Warden of Hastings, and in both capacities would try to forward their interests.

"Our Guests" was responded to by Messrs. Emo and RICHARDSON, but we have not space to report their remarks. Other toasts, songs and speeches followed, occupying the attention of all till two o'clock the next morning.

## COUNTY COUNCIL.

WARDEN'S SALARY.—After the election of A. F. Wood as Warden for the current year, Mr. Flint moved, seconded by Mr. Wilson, that the salary of the Warden should be \$300. He would do up down the Warden's salary, and to cut down salaries generally, and thought the best way was to begin with themselves, and take no more than necessary to cover expenses. Mr. Emo moved in amendment, seconded by Mr. Tumely, that the Warden's salary be \$400. Mr. Bower moved, seconded by Mr. Emo, that the salary be \$400. This motion was eventually carried.

COUNCILORS' ALLOWANCE.—Mr. Flint moved, seconded by Mr. Clapp, that Councilors receive \$1.00



dismissed for attendance and mileage. The Council, Northumberland and Cumberland, have been serving the writ by the Sheriff for taking more payment than they ought to have taken. Any person might have taken action against the Councils present, and they might have taken the launching stock of the company. Mr. Enos said Mr. Flint lived in town, and drew a mileage from the bank country, but Councils being a distance, found it was not too much for them. Mr. Wilson moved, seconded by Mr. Shenat Members receive 25 cents a day for attendance. Inform and refreshment must be carried out. Persons ought not to live in town and charge mileage. Report from the rear, and Mr. Flint, from the rear, ought not to be paid mileage. Mr. Flint merely wished to carry out the law, the law allowed mileage, take it. If any gentleman thought his services worth no more than that, let him take that sum. Mr. Wilson thought Mr. Flint's services were not worth much. He then read the bill, granting Councilors ten shillings per day, and sixpence per mile, and said it was only passed for 20 years, and business had been unjustly done ever since the 22nd Feb. 1857. He would advise the Sheriff to serve the writs, and then we should see who received most. Both motions were lost.

**ROAD MATERIAL.**—Mr. Graham moved, seconded by Mr. Farley, that orders be given to the Surveyor to acquaint the contractors that no new material at so much per yard will be required during the present year, to repair the gravel roads, without the approval of the Council, unless in urgent cases, when the Warren may give orders for what may be required.—Carried.

**COUNTY PRINTING.**—Mr. Flint moved, seconded by Mr. Graham, that the Clerk be instructed to take tenders for the County printing, to be laid before the Council on the first day of their next session.—Carried.

### The Fire at Belleville.

From the *Intelligencer Extra*.

BELLEVILLE, THURSDAY, JANUARY 20th, 1887.

Through the kindness of E. Miles, Esq., the publisher of the *MADOC MERCURY*, who very generously has given us the text of his office, we are enabled to inform our readers of the great calamity which has befallen us as well as several of our neighbours. About four o'clock this morning, a fire was discovered in the rear portion of J. McCarthy's Shoe store, Front Street, which, speedily communicated to the adjoining buildings on either side, the buildings in flames were of wood, and being old and dry, and, were quickly consumed.

It was thought at first that the shoe building occupied by the Messrs. Sutherland would escape, being considered fire-proof, and if that had not caught fire, the Insurance office in the shoe building adjoining would not have been in ruins. But the flames crept into the eaves, and through the eaves, and the wind being in that direction, the upper part of the building became speedily a prey to the devouring element. All the efforts of the firemen (and they worked nobly) were of no avail to save Messrs. Sutherland's store, and their attention was next directed to the building occupied by the *Intelligencer* office, and Mr. Wesley Bullen.

Scarcely had it been discovered that the building occupied by the Messrs. Sutherland was on fire, and as it was thought at all possible that the block would be burned, the *Intelligencer* office was completely filled with smoke, and in a few moments more a portion of the front part of the building fell on to the street, with a tremendous crash.

The flames then had the mastery, and they swept through the office like a whirlwind, licking up everything that was combustible, settling down upon the type and converting it into its natural state, fastening upon the wood-work of the new *Press*, and leaving them naked skeletons, which soon tumbled into the ruins below, twisted and broken, and rendered completely worthless.

All that remained of the wreck was about a dozen cases of Type, the Books of the Office, and Gordon's Jobber, which have been thrown out of the second story window, and was so much broken, as to be worth little more than old iron. What was saved from the Office would not amount to more than \$20. The loss is about \$5,000, which is partially covered by Insurance in the Western Assurance Company.

The old Office on the Corner of Front and Bridge Streets which it was so often predicted would burn up, still remains unscathed, although not twenty feet from the new office. The messengers by this fire are Mr. Booke, Bullen, Shoe store, who saved nearly all his stock; Mr. Hugh Walker, grocer and stationer, whose loss is about \$2,000; insured for \$400.

The buildings occupied by Mr. Jeremiah McCarthy, and Mr. James Cunningham, shoemaker, were burned; they lost nearly all their furniture, and were uninsured and fully insured.

The stores occupied by Messrs. R. Bullen and H. Walker, belonged to the estate of the late W. Robertson, and were uninsured.

The loss of the Messrs. Sutherland is heavy, being not less than from \$6,000 to \$10,000. They had an insurance upon their stock, but it was very trifling. A portion of their goods were removed, but in a damaged condition. The building was insured by the Commercial Bank, and we believe was fully insured.

Mr. West by Bullen's loss cannot be less than \$2,000; he is insured to the extent of \$600.

The total loss will foot up about \$25,000, upon which there is an insurance of about \$10,000.

Arrangements have been made for the publication of a small sheet for a few weeks until Mr. Bowall ob-

tains his new presses and type, for the selection of which he is open to all suggestions.

**THE FATAL ACCIDENT IN THE ALLEN SETTLEMENT.**  
On Wednesday, the 28th ult., the child of Robt. Gordon, aged 18 months, was burned to death. It was left by the mother in the house, with another child aged 3 years, while she went to take a look at the potatoe works. About ten minutes after she left, the oldest child came to the door and called for the mother, but when she reached the house it was too late. The poor babe was burned so badly that it expired in two hours after.

The poor little thing in order to get from the fire, ran under the bed and set fire to the clothes and many of the things belonging to the house are burned up.

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

**WILLIAM W. CORK,**  
BAILIFF of Sixth Division Court,  
MADOC.

**N.B.---PREACHING, D.V.,**  
Over the Store of Mr. Wm. Carpenter,  
Bannockburn.  
ON SABBATH EVENING, Feb. 1st, at SIX o'clock, P.M.  
and every three weeks succeeding, at 6 o'clock, P.M.  
by the Rev. J. W. SLOAN, Wesleyan Methodist Minister,  
of the Hastings Road Mission.

**To Let, for a Term of Three or Five Years.**  
THE WELL-KNOWN TAVERN STAND of JAMES JOHNSTON, on Lot N. 13, in the Fifth Concession of Madoc, with Five Acres of Land attached. For terms, which will be reasonable, apply on the premises.

**MR. GREAM,**  
(Solicitor and Attorney of the Chancery and Law Courts of England)  
Conveyancer, Coroner, &c.,  
West Half of Lot 20 in the 7th Concession of Madoc.  
Mr. GREAM will attend in Madoc Village every Saturday.

**MADOC GRIST MILL,**  
A. F. WOOD, Madoc.  
A thoroughly Competent Miller in charge.

**D. C. BROWN,**  
BLACKSMITH, HORSESHOE, &c.  
JOBING DONE AT ALL TIMES,  
Both in the Village, and near Rupert's School-House.

**JOHN DALE,**  
DEALER IN STOVES, TINWARE, SHEET IRON, &c.  
A Large Assortment of COOKING and BOX STOVES always on hand.

**ANDREW WRIGHT,**  
BAKER and CONFECTIONER, East Side, Durham street,  
Madoc.—A Large Assortment of Liquors, Groceries, and provisions always on hand.

**G. D. RAWE,**  
WATCH AND CLOCKMAKER,  
DIVISION STREET, MADOC.

**MEDICAL HALL.**  
**C. G. WILSON,**  
CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

**DR. THWAITES,**  
Madoc.

**TO RENT, OR EXCHANGE**  
FOR A SUITABLE HOUSE IN THE VILLAGE  
**THE LARGE FRAME BUILDING**  
On the North-East Corner of Lot No. 23, in the Fifth Concession of Madoc.

IMMEDIATELY ADJOINING KELLAN'S BRIDGE,  
Well Adapted either for a Store or Dwelling House.

For Particulars apply either on the spot to A. Smallfield, or if by letter, postpaid, at the Madoc Post Office.

**W. FINDLAY,**  
Town Clerk, Conveyancer, Notary Public, &c.  
Office, Town Hall, Madoc.

**A. F. WOOD,**  
MARRIAGE LICENSE AGENT,  
MADOC.

**JAMES FITZGERALD,**  
ATTORNEY AND CONVEYANCER,  
MADOC.

To the Editor of the *Madoc Mercury*.  
Mr. Editor,—I am much obliged to you for the favourable notice you have been pleased to take of my statement about locking stage SLICES. Permit me through your columns to inform my friends and the travelling public that I am not only prepared to take them through to Beaver Creek on the rails, but am ready on any other day in the week to serve my friends and customers, not only to Beaver Creek but to all parts of the County.  
If I am not able from press of business to take passengers myself, they may depend on having a steady and obliging driver sent with them.  
I remain, Your obedient Servant,  
LYMAN MOON.

Madoc, 13th Dec., 1882.

**NEW STORE AT MADOC.**  
**A. B. ROSS & BROTHER,**  
DEALERS IN STAPLE AND FANCY DRY GOODS,  
BOOTS AND SHOES, LEATHER, &c.  
The Highest Price in Cash paid for Furskins.  
A. B. ROSS, S. D. ROSS.

**DEANS & GRAY,**  
GENERAL MERCHANTS,  
Madoc. ROBERT T. GRAY.

**MADOC HOUSE.**  
NEW GOODS.  
**WOOD & BREAKELL,**  
General Merchants,  
DEALERS IN DRY GOODS, HARDWARE, GROCERIES,  
COAL OIL LAMPS, BOOTS & SHOES, &c., &c., &c.  
Cash paid for Grain and Potatoes.  
Madoc, Nov., 1882.

**THE RUSSELL HOUSE, MADOC,**  
By A. Snider,  
Corner of Madocwaik and Donald Streets.  
A FIRST CLASS HOUSE, in the business part of the town. A Good Yard and Stabling.

**MADOC MARKET PRICES.**  
SATURDAY, Feb. 7th, 1887.  
ASHES ..... 65 75 cwt.  
BARLEY ..... 25 00 cwt.  
OATS ..... 25 00 cwt.  
WHEAT ..... 40 00 cwt.  
PEAS ..... 30 00 cwt.  
HIDES ..... 94 00 cwt.  
PORK ..... 104 00 cwt.  
BUTTER ..... 12 00 cwt.  
HAY ..... 612 00 cwt.

**BANNOCKBURN PRICES CURRENT.**  
WHEAT ..... 30 00 cwt.  
OATS ..... 25 00 cwt.  
PEAS ..... 30 00 cwt.  
BUCKWHEAT ..... 25 00 cwt.  
ASHES, 9 112 B.  
BUTTER ..... 12 00 cwt.  
HIDES, 25 00 cwt.  
HAY, 612 00 cwt.  
STRAW, 61 20 cwt.  
POTATOES, 25 00 cwt.  
Feb. 7th, 1887.

**BELLEVILLE MARKETS.**  
Spring Wheat, 40 00 cwt.; Rye, 30 00 cwt.; Barley, 25 00 cwt.; Oats, 25 00 cwt.; Potatoes, 15 00 cwt.; Peas, 30 00 cwt.; Beans, 30 00 cwt.; Corn, 15 00 cwt.; Clover, 15 00 cwt.; Hay, 612 00 cwt.; Hides, 94 00 cwt.; Pork, 104 00 cwt.; Butter, 12 00 cwt.

## LIGHTLY SPOKEN

Many things of friends broken  
By the words so lightly spoken  
Words so light, yet causing pain  
Never could be recalled again—  
Many have now learned to know  
Which had hoped a bright to-morrow.  
Words unmeaning though they seem  
To the crowd who idly dream.  
Yet may wound some gentle heart  
Deeper than a poison'd dart.  
Unmeaning many, hearts so true  
Which had hoped a bright to-morrow.

(Concluded from last week.)

## THE OLD HOUSE AT BROCKLEHURST.

A pause—then she said from above, "I shall be long."

I breathed hard.

"Come now," he called again, "the gentleman's waiting;" and then the foot came slowly down. A few minutes later, I saw her, with relief no words can tell, go off with a basket on her arm to the hen-house and garden. Now was my time, and there was no moment to lose. Followed by old Pearce, I crossed the hall. As I stood waiting while he unfastened the door, the last words about the son came to my mind. He might be away; if so—if there was but this one man to face, I could battle it out alone, and not leave her for an hour in their hands.

"I don't know," I said, "whether your son is at home; if so, would he direct me, by and by, to Lockford, and carry my bag and basket?"

"Yes, he can," was the reply.

"This course, then," I said, "is the only one left me. I will wait here, and if he comes, I will follow him. I will wait here, and if he comes, I will follow him. I will wait here, and if he comes, I will follow him."

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man's aid; but I would not draw you into danger, and they are both strong men, and may have to be secured."

"And if not?" he said.

"If not, you have been detected," I repeated.

"Very well, so be it," he answered.

"But an hour later, Mr. Archer had myself with two servants, stood before the door of Brocklehurst Grange."

All seemed as quiet and undisturbed as when I had left it, scarcely more than an hour ago. Was it as peaceful within? Were they still going about their daily work, expecting my return, while the solitary prisoner upstairs waited and watched for me in suspense that would be ended now? I rang, but no one came at first in answer to the summons.

A bell rang. Could they have overlooked me and fled, leaving the house deserted? There had surely not been time for that. No; there were steps sounding on the floor, and the face of the door-chain as it fell.

A moment more, and I should know. The key turned, and the door was opened, and this time by old Pearce alone, quietly regarding us with the old sullen look and no words. They had guessed nothing yet, and now it mattered little that the three men by my side must show him all.

"You have had some one else," he said, "and what may this gentleman want?" As Mr. Archer stepped forward.

"I looked him full in the face. "He has come to take Ann Forrest from this house."

"At that name, I thought to see him turn pale or spring upon me, but no feature altered—no change came over the dogged face. Then all at once my heart misgave me. Mr. Archer looked embarrassed, and would not willingly," he said, "intrude upon you or suspect you of the horrible crime with which this gentleman charges you; but he is so positive that if you can, you ought, for your own sake, to clear yourself."

Pearce looked at him unmoved. "You are Mr. Archer of Lockford Green, I think. Why you are here and what this means, perhaps you can tell, for I cannot."

"This is what I mean," I said. "Ann Forrest, whose sister you murdered two years ago, is now secretly detained in this house; test she should accuse you as the murderers. She is in the room which you call a lumber room, and I am going there now."

"You are welcome to go there or anywhere, all of you, though I know no right you have to search this house. It signifies little to me what you do, and this is all of a piece with your conduct this morning."

And turning on his heel, he went back to the kitchen.

My companions exchanged looks, and I saw that the old villain's cunning words had strengthened their suspicions of me. "A man of this kind," I thought, "is a man of this kind."

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# THE MADOC MERCURY

## AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

No. 12 MADOC, SATURDAY FEBRUARY 14th 1863.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

### THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

#### BOMBARDMENT OF FORT McALLISTER.

On the 24th ult., the Ericsson "monitor" Montauk left Port Royal to attempt the capture of the Confederate steamer "Merrimack," known in the Ogeechee River, a few miles to the south of Savannah, Georgia. The Montauk is commanded by Worden, who, in the original Monitor, engaged the iron-clad Merrimack. In the attack on Fort McAllister, which occurred on the 27th ult., according to the Southern account the Montauk, after being engaged for nearly five hours, was forced to haul off with her turret badly damaged. But the Northern version is that Lieut. Worden lay under the enemy's fire for four hours, to try his vessel. The balls had no more effect upon her than so many hailstones.

#### THE CHARLESTON BLOCKADE.

A report from Charleston, S. C., states that one of the U. S. gunboats—the J. P. Smith, carrying eleven guns and 230 men—was captured on the afternoon of the 30th, in Stono River, after a sharp engagement, in which the U. S. loss was heavy, while the C. S. had but one man wounded. Another gunboat was badly crippled, but succeeded in escaping. Northerners think the story improbable.

On the morning of the 29th ult., the British steam propeller Princess Royal was captured off Charleston. She attempted to run into the harbour before daylight, but suddenly found herself surrounded by gunboats, and ran ashore on Long Island Beach, where she was secured. The cargo was very valuable, consisting of Whitworth guns, steam engines for gunboats, rifles, powder, &c. A party of English workmen, skilled in the manufacture of projectiles, was also secured.

#### THE MOST POWERFUL EXPEDITION OF THE WAR.

From a private letter from a gentleman on one of the U. S. gunboats at Beaufort, N. C., it appears that on the 26th ult. the whole of the U. S. fleet, with the exception of one gunboat, had left for Port Royal, where were collected at Beaufort, at the above date, one sixty large iron steam transports, having on board some 70,000 soldiers. There were also in the harbour 150 schooners loaded with artillery, ammunition, &c., which, together with the transports, would have for Port Royal to join the naval fleet as soon as they could get ready. The whole composed the most powerful expedition of the war. What its destination will be remains undeveloped; but the magnitude of the force and preparations point, it is supposed, to Charleston or Savannah.

#### THE SOUTHWEST.

The U. S. army and gunboats at the Post of Arkansas, after blowing up the fort, filling the rifle-pits and molting everything that could be made a means of defense, or offence, left on the 22nd and 23rd ult. the first division, under Gen. Sherman, left first, and Sherman with the remainder of the forces, followed. All the forces below Memphis, except those under Gen. Gorman, were concentrating for the attack on Vicksburg, so organized as to insure success, say the Northern press. The Southern press, on the other hand, were strengthening the weak points of their position at Vicksburg. They report the Yankees have

6,000 negroes at work on the canal, opposite the city, with the intention of floating the transports through. When the river rises, and landing troops below. The strength of the Yankee army will probably be 80,000.

#### THE BATTLE OF DESERTED HOUSE.

The New York Times contains an account of what it calls the Battle of Deserted House, near Suffolk, Va., on the 30th ult. The Confederate General Pryor, it was ascertained, had crossed the Blackwater with a considerable force, probably on a foraging expedition, as he had a train of twenty-two wagons. Preparations were immediately made to surprise him, by a force under command of Gen. Corcoran, the numerical strength of which is not mentioned, although nine regiments are designated which departed on the expedition. After meeting and engaging the enemy, who were "routed," but "unsuccessful in procuring forage," it was ascertained from the "twelve prisoners who fell into our hands," that Pryor's force was 2,500 infantry, 500 cavalry, and 12 pieces of artillery. The rout of the enemy was effected by the 18th Indiana, who "gaily charged down a hill, engaged the enemy for five minutes with musketry, and scattered their line." "By this time it was four in the afternoon, and our troops returned, reaching Suffolk at midnight, after stopping a few hours on the road."

The regiments of the expedition were mostly new, and behaved well under their first serious fire, with the exception of the 107th Pennsylvania, composed of drafted men. When ordered forward with the rest, they remained lying in the road; to avoid the shells passing over them and refused to stir. Gen. Corcoran, on hearing this, rode up to them, accompanied by Col. Spear, and called for the Colonel. He was dangerously wounded, and did not reply. The Lieut. Colonel, Major, Adjutant, or any Captain, were successively called for, without answer. The General then said that if any commissioned officer was there, and would advance the regiment, he should be recommended for the Colonelcy. A Lieutenant, name unknown, then rose and endeavoured to comply, but without effect. The General then appealed to them for the honour of Pennsylvania, when an Orderly Sergeant sprang up, saying, "You can draft us, but you can't make us fight." He was immediately struck on the head with the back of Col. Spear's sword, and felled. Col. Spear desired to charge them with a company of cavalry, but the General thought it better to leave them as they were.

The narrator then gives a list of killed and wounded, and concludes—"the men have returned to camp with a proud consciousness of increased manhood!"

#### The Operations of France in America.

LETTER FROM NAPOLEON TO GEN. FOREY.

Among the documents in the "yellow book" just communicated to the French Chamber is a letter from the Emperor Napoleon to Gen. Forey, commander of the French troops in Mexico, in which we read:—  
"There will not be wanting people who will ask you why we go to lavish men and money for the establishment of a regular government in Mexico. In the present state of the civilization of the world, the prosperity of America is not a matter of indifference to Europe, for it is she who feeds our manufactures and gives life to our commerce. We have an interest in this—that the Republic of the United States be powerful and prosperous; but we have none in this—that she should seize possession of all the Mexican Gulf, dominions from thence the Antilles, as well as South America, and be the sole dispenser of the products of the New World. We see now by sad experience how precarious is the fate of a country which is reduced

to seeking its chief material and commercial supplies to all the vicissitudes of a distant and hostile land. On the other hand, Mexico preserves its independence, and maintains the integrity of its territory, by placing government is constituted with the Emperor of France, so shall have restored to the Latin race on the other side of the ocean its strength and prestige. We shall have established our benighted influence in the centre of America, and the influence, by presenting immense openings for our commerce, will procure us the materials indispensable to our industry. Mexico, then, regenerated, will always be favourable to us not only from gratitude, but also because her interests will be in harmony with ours, and she will furnish powerful support in her good relations with the European Powers. To-day, then, our pledged military honour, the exigency of our policy, the interests of our industry and of our commerce, all make it a duty to march upon Mexico, and boldly plant there our flag, to establish either a monarchy, or a republic compatible with the national sentiment of the country, or, at all events, a government which promises more stability."

The New York Times believes the Emperor has been forced to put forth this letter by the pressure of European influences immediately around him—influences which he may have once controlled, but to which he is now answerable. In coming out openly and audaciously in the declaration that a limit must be placed to the extension of the great Northern Power on this continent, Louis Napoleon makes a bold bid, a great struggle, a gigantic effort, for the favour of the European Governments in general, but more especially of those of England and Spain.

We have touched on the foregoing points with reference to the hearing they have upon our own welfare. Seriously, we do not believe the great mass of the French people will sustain the policy their Emperor has marked out for this country and Mexico. It is against their traditional policy and their interest. The policy of the French Emperor, if carried out, is sure to tend to general war, as that the sun will rise and set to-morrow. We do not believe the French people have any heart in the Mexican expedition, as it is certain they do not desire war with the American people. Furthermore, we do not believe in the power of the Emperor Napoleon with all France to back him, to carry out any one of his schemes relative to this continent.

#### AGRICULTURAL.

DRAINING LEVITATIONS THE SEASON.—The met is of such importance that we copy every illustration meeting our notice. Land that can be worked early in the Spring, and put in good order for crops, even in a most unfavourable season, is much more valuable than that subject to drowning out with every heavy fall of rain. The editor of the New England Farmer notices an experiment in draining, made by himself, at some distance from length, from which we extract the following:—  
"A part of the Autumnal work on our farm has been that of finishing the drainage of a piece of land commenced in 1857. The locality is a narrow valley, and the southeast side was then opened. The upland on the edge of the valley was ploughed the preceding Spring, but so wet was it that the work could not be done until the 27th of May, and even then with difficulty, so thoroughly soaked was the soil. On the following Spring, and so on ever since, this land has been worked with comfort, and some portions of it even made into garden beds any time after the 20th of April. At the time of draining, the meadow was dotted with hawthorn, grass, rushes and stink cabbage, which all disappeared in the course of two years, without the aid of ploughing, re-seeding, or heavy manuring; nothing being applied but a very light dressing of composted manure. It will be seen, then, that the season for farm operations on this piece of land has been lengthened in the Spring about five weeks beyond what it was before drainage had taken place. The period of growth and ripening has also been considerably extended. The land will now produce a more abundant crop in a shorter time, and at about one-half the cost of labour than before drainage was effected, and heavy land."

## THE MADOC MERCURY

AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

A Weekly Journal of Local and General Information.

Will be Published every Saturday Morning, at Two Cents a Copy, or One Dollar a Year, STRICTLY in advance.

ADVERTISEMENTS WILL BE INSERTED ON THE FOLLOWING TERMS FOR CASH:—

Per Line, first insertion	6 00
Each subsequent insertion	6 12 1/2
One to ten lines, first insertion	6 70
Each subsequent insertion	6 18
Above ten lines (per line) first insertion	6 27
Each subsequent insertion, per line	6 23

All Communications for the MERCURY to be addressed, (post-paid) to A. SMALLFIELD, Madoc Post Office.

For sale at WILSON'S MEDICAL HALL, Madoc, where Subscribers in and near the village may obtain their copies, and orders for the paper and advertisements will obligingly be received.

SUBSCRIPTIONS PAYABLE YEARLY OR QUARTERLY IN ADVANCE.

We must apologise to our subscribers and readers for the appearance of to-day's issue on a sheet of somewhat smaller size than usual. We expected to have received a supply of paper from Montreal before this time, but suppose the delay has been caused by the snow impeding railway traffic.

THE MADOC MERCURY  
AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

MADOC, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14.

## THE PIONEERS OF MADOC.

Not the least interesting part of the proceedings at the Supper to the Warden, were the remarks made in response to the toast of the "Farmers of Madoc," proposed by Councillor DALE, but which we were obliged to omit last week. The first speaker was Mr. J. H. KETCHESON, who said he considered it an honour to be a farmer; that he was proud of his occupation, and trusted he should ever remain a farmer. He stated that it was twenty-one years since he moved into the township, which was then nearly a wilderness; and while much hardship had to be endured, but little produce was raised. He believed he was the first man to raise fall wheat in the township, and had always succeeded in getting good grain since; and Madoc, he stated, could raise as good as any to be found in Canada.

Mr. B. VANKLEECK, who followed, said he was glad to see the toast so well received, as he always felt proud of being a farmer—and also of being a native Canadian—a child of the soil! But he felt still greater pride in being descended from a line of British loyalists, who left the States at the close of the Revolutionary War. He alluded to the deprivations they had to encounter on first settling in Canada, and contrasted the different condition of the Province in 1863 with that of 1791—it was then almost a wilderness, while now it possessed a splendid system of inland navigation, and numerous railways and telegraph lines—and above all, a Government similar in principle and practice to that which had grown up under the British Constitution. He looked upon our municipal councils as schools of legislation, necessary for rearing up young ac-

to adorn our future halls of legislation. Who, he asked in conclusion, when taking into consideration the increase in population, and in an agricultural point of view, with such internal improvements, would not be proud of being a native Canadian?

Mr. THOS. ALLEN stated that it was as long ago as 1831 that he helped Mr. Bailey to cut out timber for the first saw mill in the township.

Other gentlemen who were called on to speak, did not respond when their names were mentioned—but we have little doubt that if all the pioneers of the township could be induced to tell their experience, it would prove highly interesting to their neighbours who have arrived since, and are now sharing in the benefits of their enterprise—and we shall be happy at any time to afford room for any communications on the subject they may wish to make public.

With respect to the rapid development and improvement of the Village during the last few years, Mr. Wood disclaimed the merit of being pioneer in that work himself, attributing it mainly to Mr. Hayes, to whose exertions and efforts he paid a deserved tribute.

MORE DASTROUS FIRES IN  
BELLEVILLE.

A fire broke out between 1 and 2 o'clock in the morning of Wednesday, the 11th inst., in the store of Mr. Hylton McKenzie, and for some hours raged furiously, destroying the premises occupied by McKenzie, Gordon and Jack, Jack, Linklater, and Bedford. In all, five wooden buildings, with most of the contents, were destroyed; and only through the energetic working of many of the lookers on, added to the exertions of the Mayor, Fire Companies, &c., was the new brick block occupied by Kelly, Dupont, Donoran, and Sawyer, saved. The building of Mr. Chandler was on fire through the side window several times. The shop (wooden building) and house of Mr. Haymes, opposite, was in great danger, which was in some degree attributable to the cornice overtopping the building; but by the use of the Hydropult it was preserved. The No. 1 Engine was of great service, but the pretty little Engine No. 2 was all ornament and no use.

Mr. G. D. Rawe, who kindly furnished the above information, adds:—I left Belleville between 1 and 2 in the afternoon of the same day, and a fire was then furiously raging in West Belleville. Several buildings, one of which was then nearly destroyed, were on fire; and those on fire were to windward of some ten or twelve others, which were almost sure to be injured or destroyed. They were all situated on the corner of Yeomansville.

## TOWNSHIP COUNCIL.

The Municipal Council of the Township of Madoc met on Wednesday, the 4th inst. Present:—A. F. Wood, Reeve; W. H. Tunstley, Deputy Reeve; Peter Vankleeck, John N. Moore, and John Dale, Councillors.

Mr. Dale presented a petition from Donald Nicolson and others, to enlarge School Section No. 12, and after hearing several parties for and against the same, it was laid over for future consideration.

The petition of William Mumby for allowance of road was taken up and considered, when the Council unanimously voted that it be not entertained, owing to the interests of other parties being concerned.

The petition of Thomas Thomson for opening a

new road was next considered. The Council entertained the same, and ordered a By-Law to be passed, establishing said road.

The petition of W. H. Carpenter for a new School Section was also taken up and considered, and after hearing several parties interested, the Council appointed a Committee to inquire into the matter and report next meeting.

The following officers were also appointed:—  
Assessors—Thomas Allen and John Long.  
Collector of Taxes—Donald Nicolson.  
Road Surveyor and Commissioner—Jephthah Bradshaw.

License and Taverns Inspector—Daniel Ross.  
The Council also appointed the usual officers for Fence-viewers, Pound-keepers, and Path-masters for the year.

The Council likewise proceeded to fix the salaries of the different officers—pass By-Laws for regulating licenses, establishing appointment of Township officers, and also of Court of Revision. After disposing of several other matters of minor importance, the Council adjourned till Monday, the 9th of March.

## COUNTY COUNCIL.

THE COUNTY ROADS.—On the second day of the late session of the County Council, Mr. Shea inquired whether the Surveyor was prepared to give any information respecting the requirements for the year in his department.—The Surveyor could not state precisely the amount required, but would give an estimate of the annual expense on a scheme which he used to follow formerly. There were 133 miles of gravel road in the county. Divide this into three sections, and put nine men and a foreman, with three teams, to each section. Most of the hills are composed of gravel, not of a quality fit for road making. There are no side drains on many of the roads, and the metal laid on gradually sinks and disappears. The roads are mostly flat instead of being rounded on the top, and the water does not run off. Gravel and stone can be had in most of the hills. On his plan the total expense would be \$4,371.62.—Mr. Richardson inquired whether statute labour is applicable to gravel roads.—The Warden explained that no statute labour was applied to county roads.—Mr. Graham was of opinion that the contractors were receiving three times as much as the value of their work. He believed from what he had heard that there was collusion between certain councillors and contractors.—The Warden called Mr. Graham to order.—Mr. Shea withdrew his motion.

COLLECTION OF TAXES.—Mr. Bogart moved, seconded by Mr. Newton, that the time for collecting the taxes of 1862 be extended to the first day of March next.—Carried.

THE CANAL.—Mr. Shea moved, seconded by Dr. Boulter, that the Warden be requested to petition Government for the early construction of the Canal at the Carrying Place.—Carried.  
Council adjourned until the first Tuesday in April.

NARROW ESCAPE OF FOUR PERSONS  
FROM DROWNING.

Mr. Hurin Wannamaker, of Madoc, with his wife and two children, while on a visit to their friends in the Seventh Town, and when crossing the bay from Belleville to Rednersville, on Monday the 2nd inst., in the dusk of the evening, drove a two horse team into a hole in the ice near the opposite shore, both horses and sleigh going immediately to the bottom. Mr. Wannamaker and wife having barely time to snatch their children from the sleigh before sinking.

Through the exertions of the people living near the place the accident occurred, Mr. Wannamaker succeeded in saving one of his horses. The horse lost was valuable, one hundred dollars having been refused for it the same day.

## ANOTHER GOLD SNAP.

At sunrise, yesterday morning, the mercury in a thermometer at Keller's Bridge indicated twenty degrees below zero.

The late snow-storm has made business dull in the village—shutting up communication with other parts of the township.



**QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE HASTINGS ROAD MISSION.**—It will be seen by an advertisement in another column that the quarterly meeting of the Wesleyan Methodist Mission will be held at the Jordan on the 22nd inst. The Rev. Mr. Jackson, of the Sidney Circuit—a very able and effective speaker—will take part in the services.

We hear that measles and typhoid fever are prevalent, both in the village and other localities in the township.

His Honor Judge Smart will hold the Sixth Division Court in Madoc on Tuesday, the 18th inst.

### SAINT VALENTINE'S DAY.

Today is Saint Valentine's Day, as the clerks in the London General Post Office will know by the time they have assorted the "valentines" passing through their hands—as the number averages hundreds of thousands, sometimes verging on a million—with an extra amount of undecipherable directions.

Misson, in his "Travels in England," says:—"On the eve of the 14th of February, St. Valentine's Day, a time when all living nature inclines to couple, the young folks in England, and Scotland too, by a very ancient custom, celebrate a little festival that tends to the same end. An equal number of maids and bachelors get together, each writes their true or some feigned name upon separate billets, which they roll up, and draw by way of lots, the maids taking the men's billets, and the men the maids'; so that each of the young men lights upon a girl that he calls his Valentine, and each of the girls upon a young man which she calls her's. By this means each has two Valentines; but the young man sticks faster to the Valentine that is fallen to him, than to the Valentine to whom he is fallen. Fortune having thus divided the company into so many couples, the Valentines give balls and treats to their mistresses, wear their billets several days upon their bosoms or sleeves, and this little sport often ends in love. This ceremony is practised differently in different countries, and according to the severity of Madam Valentine. There is another kind of Valentine, which is the first young man or woman that chance throws in your way in the street or elsewhere on that day."

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

### NOTICE.

**TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.**  
THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MADOC will hold their several meetings for the current year on the days and times following, viz:—  
On MONDAY, 28th APRIL. On MONDAY, 6th JULY.  
On MONDAY, 28th OCTOBER. On MONDAY, 28th DECEMBER.  
All parties having business before the Council will please take notice of the same.  
By Order,  
W. FINDLAY, Town Clerk.  
Office, Town Hall, Feb. 9, 1862.

**FOR SCHOOL BOOKS, STATIONERY, AND CHILDREN'S BOOKS,**  
At Publishers' Prices, Call At  
**WILSON'S DRUG STORE,**  
DURHAM STREET, MADOC.

### NEW STORE AT MADOC.

**A. B. ROSS & BROTHER,**  
DEALERS IN STAPLE AND FANCY DRY GOODS, BOOTS AND SHOES, LEATHER, &c.  
The Highest Price in Cash paid for Potash.  
A. B. ROSS. S. D. ROSS.

### DEANS & GRAY,

**GENERAL MERCHANTS,**  
Madoc. ROBERT T. GRAY.

### THE RUSSELL HOUSE, MADOC,

By A. Sulder,  
Corner of Madoc and Donald Streets.  
FIRST CLASS HOUSE, in the business part of the town. A Good Yard and Stabling.

**QUARTERLY MEETING**  
OF THE WESLEYAN METHODIST MISSION, at the FORD, on the 22nd FEBRUARY, at 10 A.M.  
The Rev. JOHN JACKSON, from Sidney Circuit, will be present; and will officiate at the Lord's Supper, and Baptism.

**MADOC HOUSE.**  
**NEW GOODS.**  
**WOOD & BREAKELL,**  
General Merchants,  
DEALERS IN DRY GOODS, HARDWARE, GROCERIES, COAL, OIL LAMPS, BOOTS & SHOES, &c., &c.  
Cash paid for Grain and Potash.  
Madoc, Nov., 1862.

**MR. GREAM,**  
(Solicitor and Attorney of the Chancery and Law Courts of England)  
Conveyancer, Coroner, &c.,  
West Half of Lot 20 in the 7th Concession of Madoc.  
Mr. GREAM will attend in Madoc Village every Saturday.

**W. FINDLAY,**  
Town Clerk, Conveyancer, Notary Public, &c.  
Office, Town-Hall, Madoc.

**JAMES FITZGERALD,**  
ATTORNEY AND CONVEYANCER,  
MADOC.

**DR. THWAITES,**  
Madoc.

**MEDICAL HALL.**  
**C. G. WILSON,**  
CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

**A. F. WOOD,**  
MARRIAGE LICENSE AGENT,  
MADOC.

**G. D. RAWE,**  
WATCH AND CLOCKMAKER,  
DIVISION STREET, MADOC.

**ANDREW WRIGHT,**  
BAKER AND CONFECTIONER, East Side, Durham street.  
Madoc.—A Large Assortment of Liquors, Groceries, and Provisions always on hand.

**D. C. BROWN,**  
**BLACKSMITH, HORSESHOER, &c.**  
JOBBER DONE AT ALL TIMES,  
Both in the Village, and near Rupert's School-House.

**JOHN DALE,**  
DEALER IN STOVES, TINWARE, SHEET IRON, &c.—  
A Large Assortment of COOKING and BOX STOVES always on hand.

**WILLIAM W. CORK,**  
Barrister of Sixth Division Court,  
MADOC.

**TO RENT, OR EXCHANGE**  
FOR A SUITABLE HOUSE IN THE VILLAGE  
**THE LARGE FRAME BUILDING,**  
On the North-East Corner of Lot No. 23, in the Fifth Concession of Madoc,  
IMMEDIATELY ADJOINING KELLAR'S BRIDGE,  
Well Adapted either for a Store or Dwelling House.  
For Particulars apply either on the spot to A. Smallfield, or if by letter, postpaid, at the Madoc Post Office.

**To Let, for a Term of Three or Five Years,**  
THE WELL-KNOWN FARMER STAND OF JAMES JOHNSTON, on Lot No. 13, in the Fifth Concession of Madoc, with Five Acres of Land attached. For terms, which will be reasonable, apply on the premises.

To the Editor of the Madoc Mercury.

SIR, EDITOR.—I am much obliged to you for the favourable notice you have been pleased to take of my FLYING AND OAT CROCK STAGE RELIANCE. Permit me to thank you for the notice, and to inform my friends and the travelling public that I am not only prepared to take them through to Beaver Creek, on the mail stage, but am ready on any other day in the week to serve my friends and customers, not only to Beaver Creek but to all parts of the County.

If I am not able from want of business to take passengers myself, they may depend on having a steady and obliging driver sent in their stead.

I remain, Your obedient Servant,  
LYMAN MOON.  
Madoc, 13th Dec., 1862.

**MADOC GRIST MILL,**  
A. F. WOOD, Madoc.  
A thoroughly Competent Miller in charge.

**THE BREAK IN THE BLOCKADE.**  
The following are the official statements of the late alleged successful raising of the blockade of Charleston in a ton harbour, of which the first news, received by way of the Richmond papers, caused great excitement in the North:—

**OFFICIAL PROCLAMATION.**  
HEADQUARTERS, LAND AND NAVAL FORCES, CHARLESTON, S. C., Jan. 31, 1862.  
At about five o'clock this morning the Confederate States naval force on this station attacked the United States blockading fleet off the harbour of the city of Charleston, and sunk, dispersed or drove off and out of sight for the time the entire hostile fleet.

Therefore we, the undersigned, commanders respectively of the Confederate States naval and land forces, in this quarter, do hereby formally declare the blockade, put by the United States of the said city of Charleston, S. C., to be raised by an superior force of the Confederate States, from and after the 31st day of January, A. D. 1862, and G. T. BEAUREGARD, General Commanding, and D. N. INGRAHAM, Flag Officer commanding the Naval Forces in South Carolina.

The results of the naval engagements yesterday (says a Charleston despatch dated Feb. 1) are two steamers sunk, four set on fire, and the remainder driven away.

The foreign Consuls here held a meeting last night, and were unanimously of the opinion that the blockade had been legally raised.

Twenty blockaders are off the bay to-day.

The Northern press now seems to consider the affair ridiculously exaggerated—in fact, an unsuccess. I feel attempt to regain possession of the steamer Princeton Royal—the story about raising the blockade being concocted to catch the steamer for Europe.

The U. S. Government, with the doctrine openly advocated in France of raising the blockade by force of arms, has still more trouble ahead.

**MADOC MARKET PRICES.**  
SATURDAY, Feb. 14th, 1862.

ASHES	\$5 75 per cwt.
BARLEY	35 to 40 cents.
OATS	35 to 40 cents.
WHEAT	80 to 90 cents.
PEAS	50 to 60 cents.
HIDES	94 to 96.
PORK	65% to 70 per cwt.
BUTTER	12% cents per lb.
HAY	\$12 per ton.

**BANNOCKBURN PRICES CURRENT.**

WHEAT	\$0 80 to \$0 85
OATS	35 to 40
PEAS	50 to 60
BUCKWHEAT	55 to 60
ASHES, WIS. D.	20 to 25
HUTCHER	40 to 45
HIDES	94 to 96
HAY, 612.	
STRAW, 50 to 55 per load.	
POTATOES, 25 to 30.	

**BELLEVEILLE MARKET.**  
Spring Wheat, to 61 1/2 to 62, Rye, 50 to 55, Barley, 45 to 50, Oats, 35 to 40, Peas, 50 to 55, Flour (Hardy) 7 to 8, Flour (Soft) 6 to 7, Potatoes, 25 to 30, Butter, 12 to 15, Eggs, 10 to 12, Hides, 90 to 95, Pork, 60 to 65, Lard, 10 to 12, Tallow, 8 to 10, Soap, 10 to 12, Candles, 10 to 12, Sugar, 10 to 12, Coffee, 10 to 12, Tea, 10 to 12, Spices, 10 to 12, Miscellaneous, 10 to 12.

## THE FARMER'S WIFE THAT WOULD BE.

I was wild and laughing girl,  
Just turned of sweet sixteen,  
As full of fun and mischief  
As any girl has been;  
And when I am a woman grown,  
No girl here for me;  
I'll be as merry in my life,  
As a farmer's wife I'll be.

Let other girls who love it best,  
Enjoy the gloomy town,  
Mid dusky walls and dirty streets,  
To ramble up and down;  
But flowery fields and shady woods,  
And sunny skies for me;  
If ever I marry in my life,  
A farmer's wife I'll be.

## THE OFFICE-BOY.

"Boy Warren.—One who can read manuscript well, can find a situation by application at this office."

Such was the paragraph that met the eye and took the fancy of a fair, slender girl of twenty, as she sat alone in one of the sparsely-furnished attic rooms of a miserable tenement house in a great city, running her eye down the column of "wants," in a flourishing daily paper, in the dim hope of finding something that would meet her own particular "wants" and needs.

"Would that I were a boy!" she murmured. "Boys are always wanted. Men, too, are wanted, and good stout women; but nobody wants weak, slender girls like me. Teachers are wanted, but they require recommendations which I could not get, except from two old Irish women. Nurses are wanted, but I know nothing of that business. Servants are wanted; but they say I look too delicate to be good for anything; and she looked pityingly at her white, thin hands. Seamstresses are wanted; but I have tried that—I cannot now get work enough to keep me from starving—and when I did my health visibly declined. Alas! that dear Arthur and I should have come to the city alone and orphaned as we were, to live upon our slender means, in the vain hope that his authorship was to bring us such a golden harvest. How little we knew then of its uncertainty or precariousness; or that his precious health, and perhaps life, would be the sacrifice. As a last resort he has gone to a warmer clime, to which, but for our straitened means, I would have accompanied him, and it would kill him. I think, if he knew that by his trust in a villain we had lost all upon which both of us depended, and that I was reduced to such straits to obtain the means of living. I have removed to this miserable attic, sold everything that I can possibly spare, and yet—Ah, there is Arthur's old trunk that he brought from home! Wouldn't that bring something? I wonder what rubbish is in it? And she took out a key, opened the trunk, and laid out the contents upon the miserable bed.

As she did so, her eye again fell upon the staring capitals, "Boy Wanted."

"I declare, that paragraph haunts me; and sure enough, here is quite a decent suit to clothe that boy—the same that Arthur wore when he first came to the city, five years ago. Who knows but an overruling Providence has purposely placed these things in my way, to keep me from perdition or death? But I will not think of that. What do they want of a boy? I should like to know, that I couldn't do just as well? Answer the devil's call for copy, run errands from morning till night? Ay, and read manuscript to the lazy, yawning editor, I.e., decipher such unintelligible hieroglyphics as puzzle him, and would make a monkey laugh. Does a printer's boy do that? I believe I could do all that, though, with the privilege of getting a malediction, once in an hour or two, better than stitching to the tune of Hood's Song of the Shirt; and Arthur used to say I had a peculiar knack at guessing out the meaning of cabalistic characters, and making sense out of nonsense, which I got, no doubt, by copying law papers for Uncle Hamilton. How much and how often I have tried in vain to get employment suited to my sex and condition, during the past few weeks. Heaven only knows, and I cannot believe, I shall forfeit its favour by playing the fictitious role of a boy. I will, I must try it, whether I succeed or not; and upon the whole, I think I should like that freedom and independence that are supposed to belong of right to the pantaloon, said she, smiling.

Having come to this conclusion, the young lady proceeded to invest herself soberly in the strange garments; but she could not help smiling when she took a survey of herself in a bit of cracked mirror, and saw how nearly she resembled her brother, when a bright active lad of sixteen—all but the hair. It was dreadfully against the grain to clip those dark, shining curls; but she did it—for necessity is a stern master—and was a strange life and death with her, and she

multitudinal at no means that would insure success. After surveying herself to see that all was right, and marshalling up and down while he got used to the feeling of the strange garments, and get her courage up to the sticking point, she set out upon her mission.

The editor of an exceedingly popular weekly as well as daily journal was sitting in his office, pen in hand, poring over a pile of manuscript, and trying to gather his ideas into a focus, for a spicy leader, during the pauses of a nervous headache, when our boy, with a trembling heart, was ushered into his presence.

"Boy, sir!" said the obsequious servitor, sententially.

The editor looked up asexlingly, for he had just caught an idea, and did not like to be disturbed.

"You advertised for a boy, sir," said she, tremblingly.

"Yes, you are the fourth who has applied for the place to-day." And with a keen, searching glance from a pair of sharp gray eyes, she was told to sit down and wait.

The boy's courage fell yet a good many degrees lower at this, and if her case had been one whit less desperate, she would have made a hasty retreat. As it was, she dropped into a seat, with pale cheek and downcast eyes, and it was some time before she ventured again to raise them. He paid no heed to her, however, but continued to write rapidly for half an hour or more before he deigned to bestow upon her the least notice. But this was a benefit to her, as it gave her time to collect her thoughts, and examine his physiognomy and surroundings. At last he turned upon her suddenly and said:

"You want a place, do you?"

"Yes, sir."

"What are your qualifications?"

"Such as I thought would suit you, sir. I can read, write, and run."

"Good things; but let us see about the first," and he passed her a book of selections.

Now Alice Hamlin was one of the finest readers in the world, with a pleasant, sweet-toned voice, an agreeable expression, and a face that lighted up eloquently when she read or conversed, and the fascination of her tones and looks was not lost upon our bachelior editor, even though he thought her a boy.

"That will do," he said, after several trials; "but here is where you all fail. If you can read these, you would indeed be a treasure to me just now;" and he passed over a handful of the knottiest kind of manuscripts, which to his evident astonishment she deciphered at once.

The man's forehead relaxed its frown, and a genial smile broke over his face, as he said:

"You will do, if we can come to terms. What is your name?"

"Alice—Alison Hamlin, sir," she said, with a bright blush, for, strange to say, she had not before thought of a change of name.

"Have you friends in the city, or recommendations?"

"Neither. I came to the city but a few months ago, to live with an only brother. He was obliged to go South, on account of failing health, we lost our property soon after, so I am obliged to do as I can."

"We usually require recommendations," and he looked her over searchingly.

The bright brown eyes filled with tears, and fell for an instant before his steady gaze, and the check crimsoned; but they were raised again with an assurance born of the necessities of the hour, as she said:

"I could judge of a man's talents, capability, or honesty, better by his countenance than his recommendations. The latter might be forged, the former never."

"Perhaps you are right," said the editor, laughing.

"You are a queer boy, and I suppose have been sitting here all this time, spaniel-like, reading my ugly countenance."

"Yes, sir."

"Well, what did you make of it?"

The dimples came into the corners of her mouth, as she said:

"You looked sick and harassed, and stern enough; but I would trust to your generosity, or kindness of heart."

"Well, you shall not trust in vain, boy." I like you so well that I will dispense with the recommendations, and shall try and give you reason to believe you were right."

After the terms were concluded upon, Alice went home with a lighter heart, and the next day she entered upon her new duties, and a new phase of life.

She found that the continued illness of the junior editor was the cause of the "boy's" being wanted; and that Mr. Morley, the senior, who was a gentleman of thirty-five or so, with superior ability, but infirm health, was indeed overworked, and harassed enough by his double duty, and very much in need of an assistant. Piles of unanswered letters, and unexamined manuscripts had accumulated, and everything about the office was in utmost confusion; for the senior had not been in the habit of attending to such matters as taking care of the odds and ends, and doing the odd drudgery generally; but devoted his time to writing, and obtaining general information. He had expected only temporary and partial relief from a boy; but somehow, with her woman's tact and ingenuity, joined to untiring patience and perseverance, things about the office in a very few days began to assume quite a different aspect, and the editor looked with astonishment upon the immense amount of business performed in one day by that "strange boy." Hopes of letters were answered, interminable manuscripts waded through, large quantities of papers filed and put in their proper places, and everything reduced to better system than had ever been known in the office before; and all without the least noise or confusion, or bother to the gentleman, who, though constantly occupied, was yet made dimly conscious of what was going on, by an occasional low-toned inquiry, as well as by the gradual accession of comfort and freedom from cares that had so unexpectedly come to him. He seldom spoke to her at first, except upon the business of the office; but after awhile, upon rare occasions, he would converse with her quite generally, each time with a growing wonder and admiration of the boy's abilities and stock of general information. "Where did you get such a tact for office-work? Why, you are as handy as a woman," he said to her one day.

Alice had now got used to his abrupt ways, and the feeling of her strange garments; but this feminine allusion brought the blushes to her cheek, and for the moment disconcerted her.

"I used to sort and file law papers for my guardian at home, and later, since I came to the city, I have copied manuscript a great deal for my brother, who was an author."

"Indeed, what was his name?"

"Mr. Hamlin, sir."

"Ah, I remember him; you resemble him, too, I see. Light literature, wasn't it? Very light, Blake said; but Blake was sick and cross then, and perhaps fastidious. Look in that drawer of waste papers yonder, and see if you can find any of his productions."

Alice readily found them, for they were in her own handwriting, and she had happened to come upon them a few days before, and sighed over the broken hopes they involved, and when Mr. Morley asked her with unusual interest and condescension to read them, she was careful to do her best. He interrupted her several times with expressions of admiration, and at the end exclaimed:

"Why, what was Blake thinking of? It is really excellent."

Alice's eyes glistened with tears, as she said, "I knew that you were kind and generous—"

"There's no generosity about it. I look at these things in a purely business-point of view. The story is admirable, and shall be published and paid for; and if you have any more as good at home, why, bring them along. No thanks; but did your brother write much?"

"Yes; but he was unknown, and his writings were not very highly appreciated. I have a number of his articles at home that I think better than half that get into the papers; but you, perhaps, would think differently."

"I have considerable respect for your judgement, Alison, and we will see what they are like."

The papers were brought, highly approved, and paid for; a kindness that touched Alice all the more deeply in that she had heard from her brother, who was slowly improving, and she was trying to send him a remittance. From that time a more confidential intercourse grew up between the two, though neither could have told why. Alice found no happier place than the grim office and its associates; and our editor felt lost, and a strong sense of loss, whenever the boy was away, until he returned again. And when upon leisure than usual, he would sometimes sit for an hour, tipped back in his chair, with his feet upon another, and eyes half shut, listening entranced to the clear, bell-like tones of her voice, and watching the play of expression upon her exquisite features, as she read some grand old poem or romance, or even dry political speech or disquisition. And often after office hours, he would ask her home with him to his hotel, to dinner or tea, and spend an hour or two in quiet conversation.

Alice was fully aware what misconstructions would be put upon their interviews, were it known that she was a woman; but she trusted to her disguise, and was only too happy to enjoy them. It seemed strange to her, though, and himself, even, that he should form such a friendship for a mere boy, a lad of half his years, and few of his educational advantages, but so it was.

(To be concluded next week.)



# THE MADOC MERCURY

## AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

No. 18.

MADOC, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1863.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

### THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

#### THE U. S. SECRETARY OF STATE AND THE FRENCH AMBASSADOR.

Mr. Seward, in answer to a resolution of the Senate, calling for the character of the suggestions made by the Secretary of State to M. Mercier, the representative of the French to the U. S. Government, as narrated in his communication to M. Thouvenel, under date of the 18th of April last, which induced M. Mercier to undertake his mission to Richmond in that month, and what representations, if any, he was authorised to make to the Confederate authorities, replied—

"That no suggestions were made to M. Mercier, by the Secretary of State, that induced or were designed or calculated to induce him to undertake a mission to Richmond in April last, or at any other time. He was not then, nor has he or any other person ever been authorised by this Government or by the Secretary of State to make any representations of any kind or on any subject, to the insurrectionary agents or so-called authorities at Richmond, or to hold any communication with them on behalf of this Government."

The Tribune's Washington correspondent says this reply is understood to raise a question of veracity between the French Minister and the Secretary of State.

#### THE FRENCH MEDIATION PROJECT.

On the 12th inst., the President transmitted to the Senate a copy of the correspondence which has taken place with France "on the subject of mediation, or other measures looking to the termination of the existing civil war." The French proposal is contained in a despatch from M. Drouyn de L'Huys, dated Paris, January 9, addressed to M. Mercier, and communicated by him to Mr. Seward on the 3rd inst. We have not room for the arguments used to convince the Americans of the propriety of accepting the advice tendered. It amounts to this—Let the U. S. government appoint Commissioners to meet on neutral ground Commissioners of the insurgents. In the conferences then to be held, reciprocal complaints could be discussed, and in place of the accusations which the North and South now mutually cast upon each other, the conference would be engaged with discussions of the interests which divide them. The commissioners would seek by means of well-ordered and profound deliberations, whether these interests are definitively irreconcilable; whether separation is an extreme that can no longer be avoided, or whether the memories of a common existence, the ties of every kind which have made of the North and the South one whole federative State, and have borne them on to so high a degree of prosperity, are not more powerful than the causes which have placed arms in the hands of the two populations.

The reply of the U. S. Government is in the form of a lengthy despatch, dated Feb. 10, 1863, from Mr. Seward to Mr. Dayton, the American Minister at Paris. It boasts of the successes achieved by the land and naval forces in the twenty-one months of the conflict, asserting that so many of the States and districts which the insurgents originally included in the field of their dominion have already been re-established under the flag of the Union, that they now retain only the States of Georgia, Alabama, Texas, half of Virginia, half of North Carolina, two-thirds of South Carolina, half of Mississippi, and one-third respectively of Arkansas and Louisiana, and

the National forces hold even this small (!) territory in close blockade and siege. Fears are entertained that M. Drouyn de L'Huys has taken other light than the "correspondence of this government for his guidance in ascertaining its temper and finances." The suggestion of M. de L'Huys is snubbed, a "better form" being the "constitutional forum furnished by the Congress of the United States for debates between the alienated parties."

The Shipping Gazette remarks, that should the Emperor's proposal be rejected, he has left himself apparently but one alternative, to recognize the South and raise the blockade. It may be taken for granted that the offered negotiation will be rejected at Washington, and the Gazette asks what follows,—the compulsory cessation of hostilities, or a maritime war with the North? Can this country afford to let the French Emperor proceed alone in this, his American Her Majesty's government? These are questions of great importance, and we hope their solution is not far off.

#### THE GULF AND THE MISSISSIPPI.

A Port Hudson despatch says:—"Deserters are constantly coming in from the enemy at Baton Rouge, Banks' army. They state that numerous officers had resigned in consequence of the arrival of negro regiments; that the army is completely demoralized, and in some cases had reached revolt; and that one regiment is confined in the penitentiary for laying down their arms. Banks is stated to have said, 'My army has gone to hell—it is useless to deny it.'"

Memphis papers of the 11th state that the Confederate advance in Mississippi is said to be at Okolona. The inclemency of the weather delays movements. By the way of Tusculum it is reported that a large part of the army of Virginia has been moved to Vicksburg, and all the garrison taken from Mobile except 4,000 men for police duty. The railroad from Selma, Alabama, to Meridian, Mississippi, is completed, thus enabling the Confederates to concentrate forces rapidly at Vicksburg.

The enforcement of the conscription act is driving many from Alabama and Mississippi North.

The levee on the Mississippi side of the Mississippi river, twelve miles below Helena, at Yazoo Pass, has been cut by the Northern forces. It has also been cut at Greenville, on the Louisiana side, opposite to Lake Providence.

#### NORTH CAROLINA.

##### REPORTED DISAFFECTION AMONG THE FEDERAL TROOPS.

The Kingston correspondent of the Raleigh State Journal says:—"Three abolition deserters came into our lines to Captain Whiteford's pickets on Saturday. They say that great dissatisfaction exists among the Federal troops at Newbern and Morehead City. The 6th New York Regiment stacked their arms at Morehead City on Thursday, refusing to fight another day until they were paid off. Three regiments were immediately dispatched from Newbern to Morehead to quell the rebellion, but they had accomplished nothing at the last accounts. The mutiny was still raging to a fearful extent."

#### THE NORTHERN ARMY.

Senator Rice, of Minnesota, who is a member of the Military Committee of the U. S. Senate, lately made the following extraordinary statement:—"I do not believe there is a man in this government in one of the departments to-day that can tell us whether we have five hundred thousand or a million men in the field—not one who can come within fifty per cent. of sick and wounded in the hospitals, or with their regiments. One department makes its estimate based on the supposition that we have one million five hundred thousand men in our army; another, on the supposition that we have one million five hundred thousand men in our army. The simple truth is that they do not know whether we have that number or half that number."

### THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S SPEECH.

Legislative Council, Quebec, 18th Feb. 1863.

His Excellency the Governor General, at 3 o'clock p.m. this day, proceeded in state to the Legislative Council Chamber, and after he had taken his seat upon the Throne, the Hon. Alex. Campbell informed His Excellency that the choice of the Council had fallen upon him to be their Speaker. His Excellency then commanded the attendance of the Legislative Assembly. The members of that body, preceded by their Speaker, the Hon. Jos. Edouard Turpin, promptly appeared at the bar, after which His Excellency was pleased to deliver the following

#### SPEECH:

Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council—Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

"It affords me much satisfaction to meet you again in Parliament, and to avail myself of your assistance in the enactment of measures for the promotion of the welfare and prosperity of the Province."

The period of the year at which you have been convened will, I trust, be found generally convenient, and such will afford ample time for deliberation upon the subjects which may be brought under your notice, before the commencement of the commercial and agricultural business season.

I congratulate you upon the spirit of loyalty and patriotism which has been manifested throughout the country in the enrolment of volunteer militia companies, and on the zeal and activity displayed by the volunteers and the drill associations in rendering themselves efficient for active service, should their assistance in defence of the Province be unhappily required.

A Bill will be submitted to you, containing amendments to the existing Militia Law, having for its object to improve the system now in force for the defensive organization of the people.

A measure for the more fair adjustment of Parliamentary representation in each section of the Province will be laid before you.

You will be also asked to consider a bill for the more equitable settlement of the relations between debtor and creditor, and to afford relief to insolvent debtors.

Other measures of public utility, in relation to the administration of justice, to the registration of titles, and to the law respecting patents for inventions, will be submitted for your consideration.

Shortly after the close of the last session of the Legislature, I appointed Commissioners to enquire into the state of the public buildings at Ottawa, and especially into the expenditure already incurred in respect to them. This investigation has, I regret to say, been unavoidably protracted. A report, however, has been recently received, which will be laid before you, and steps have been taken, based upon that report, with a view to the resumption and speedy completion of the works.

Two members of my Executive Council have visited London during the recess, to confer with the Imperial Government, in conjunction with delegates from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, respecting the construction of an Intercolonial Railway. The correspondence with the Secretary for the Colonies on this subject will be laid before you without delay. These gentlemen were also instructed to call the attention of the Imperial authorities to the importance of opening up for settlement the great North-western territory, and of facilitating the establishment of direct communication between Canada and British Columbia. Very favourable results may be expected from these representations, not only in the development of the resources of intermediate and distant possessions of the Crown, but in the commercial benefits that will accrue to this Province as the natural outlet for the productions of the West.

Gentlemen of the Legislative Assembly:

The public accounts for the past year will be laid before you, together with the estimates for the supplies required for the service of the current year. These estimates have been prepared with the strictest attention to economy.

I have appointed Commissioners to enquire into the state and condition of every branch of the public service, in order to ascertain and remedy the defects of the system now regulating the audit of accounts and the payment of moneys from the public exchequer, and with a view to reimbursement of expenditure, so far as may be found consistent with a due regard to efficiency.

I hope that the result of their enquiries will introduce such a system of control and economy as may before long bring the expenditure of the Province within its annual income.

Hon. Gentlemen and Gentlemen—

The contributions which have spontaneously and freely flowed from the Province for the relief of distress in the manufacturing districts of Great Britain, are a gratifying evidence of the sympathy of the Canadian people with their fellow-subjects in the British Isles, and will, I am confident, serve to strengthen the kindly ties which, I trust, will long continue to exist between this colony and the parent state.

I invite you to consider the several subjects which may be brought before you, in a calm, impartial, and unselfish spirit; and I fervently invoke the blessing of the Almighty on your performance of the important duties which the Constitution of this Province has imposed upon you.

## THE MADOC MERCURY

AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

A Weekly Journal of Local and General Information.

Will be Published every Saturday Morning, at Two Cents a Copy, or One Dollar a Year, STRICTLY IN ADVANCE.

ADVERTISEMENTS WILL BE INSERTED ON THE FOLLOWING TERMS FOR CASH—

Six lines, first insertion	0 50
Each subsequent insertion	0 12½
Six to ten lines, first insertion	0 70
Each subsequent insertion	0 16
Above ten lines (per line) first insertion	0 07
Each subsequent insertion, per line	0 02

All Communications for the MERCURY to be addressed, (post-paid) to A. SMALLFIELD, Madoc Post Office.

For sale at WILSON'S MEDICAL HALL, Madoc, where subscribers in and near the village may obtain their copies, and orders for the paper and advertisements will obligingly be received.

BY SUBSCRIPTIONS PAYABLE YEARLY OR QUARTERLY IN ADVANCE.



## THE MADOC MERCURY

AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

MADOC, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21.

### A FEW WORDS ABOUT THE MERCURY.

To-day's paper completes the first quarter of the publication of the MADOC MERCURY—which, in the opinion of some who do not, so far as we are aware, do anything more than talk about it and read it gratis—was the full extent of its probable existence. A few who did subscribe for the quarter, with most amusing frankness gave a similar reason for not making a greater outlay. Out of deference to this doubting and damping candour, we concluded to make it optional with all to subscribe either by the year or quarter—and we have found the plan so far successful, that we believe the number of our subscribers is larger than it would have been with only the longer term.

In a merely pecuniary point of view, the experience of the first quarter is not very encouraging. We must admit we did not expect it to be, considering how very deficient

the last harvest was generally in this section. Many who would like to take the MERCURY have told us they cannot spare the money at present, and we hope with better times to number them among our subscribers. But we can congratulate ourselves upon the fact that in spite of hard times, our circulation though slowly is steadily increasing,—not only in the number of regular subscribers, but in the casual sales at two cents a copy. Still further, we are glad to learn that the paper is developing a taste for reading among the children of the families where it has been introduced, and in that respect alone is considered worth more than its cost. How far we have succeeded in making the MERCURY a record of matters of local interest, we must leave to the judgment of our older readers. We are under obligations to those who have aided us in our endeavours to do so, by their readiness at all times to furnish us with information.

### THE SPEECH.

The "Speech from the Throne" delivered at the opening of Parliament, will probably be scanned with more than usual eagerness, from the fact that while it is really the programme of the Administration, there seems to be a very prevalent opinion that their tenure of office is of rather uncertain continuance. The arrangement of the topics to be submitted to Parliament appears to betray a consciousness of "breakers ahead." Having turned out the late Administration on the Militia question, they find themselves compelled to deal with the subject, without having been quite successful in having procured the Imperial guarantee for the construction of the Intercolonial railroad, which, had it been obtained, would have probably tided them over the difficulty. So the patriotism, zeal and activity of the volunteers is acknowledged in the very outset, in the hope doubtless that this cheap sort of pay will reconcile them to the changes to be proposed in the bill for amending the existing law. But unless provision is made for the pay of the volunteers, we doubt if many of those who have enrolled themselves under the idea that they were to receive compensation, will turn out for drill when called upon to do so. The grand problem, then, is to hit upon a scheme that will cost the Province very little, and at the same time provide a sufficient force for active service, if their services should "unhappily be required."—The matters which will not be so likely to meet with any damaging opposition are next enumerated;—and then another inducement is held out to give them a chance, by an allusion to the very favourable results expected from the representations made to the Imperial authorities as to the importance of opening up for settlement the great North-Western territory, and of facilitating the establishment of direct communication between Canada and British Columbia. Finally, the estimates have been prepared with the strictest attention to economy.—Well, it will be a happy thing if this promise is measurably realized. We only hope the result may prove to be different from the experience of the neighbouring Republic. Each party alternately got into power by denouncing the profligate expenditures of their predecessors, and always found very good excuses for spending a great deal more of the public money than themselves. Consequently we feel scared at the possible expenditures of professed conservatives, especially when they denounce their opponents on all occasions as "corruptionists."

### PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTH PARLIAMENT OF UNITED CANADA.

#### Opening of Parliament.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

QUEBEC, Feb. 12.

At three o'clock this afternoon His Excellency the Governor-General proceeded in state to the Chamber of the Legislative Council, in the Parliament buildings, and having taken his seat upon the throne, commanded the attendance of the Legislative Assembly, and that House being present, headed by their Speaker.

The Clerk of the Legislative Council stated, on behalf of his excellency, that he did not think fit to declare the causes for which he had summoned the present Parliament until a Speaker of the Legislative Council had been elected according to law; but that to-morrow at three o'clock in the afternoon the Speech would be delivered from the Throne.

His Excellency then retired, and the Clerk took the Chair and announced the death, during the recess, of the late Speaker, Sir Allan McNab.

Hon. Mr. Hamilton, of Kingston, moved that the Hon. Alex. Campbell, of Cataragui, do take the chair as Speaker of this House.

Hon. Mr. Desaulles seconded the motion, which was carried unanimously.

The Speaker-elect having been escorted to the chair by his mover and seconder, briefly thanked the House for the honour conferred upon him.

The House then, at twenty minutes after three, adjourned.

Feb. 13.

[The Speech from the Throne will be found on the first page.]

The Speaker took the chair at three o'clock.

The Hon. Mr. Alexander gave notice that he would inquire of the Ministry as to the manner in which the Montreal Steamship Company had fulfilled its contract with the Government.

The Hon. Mr. Latellier then moved the Address in reply to His Excellency's Speech from the Throne, seconded by the Hon. Mr. Currie.

After debate, the first paragraph was adopted, and at half-past five o'clock the House adjourned till to-morrow.

#### LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Feb. 12.

The Speaker took the chair at three o'clock, at which hour the House was summoned to attend His Excellency in the Legislative Council Chamber. On returning the house immediately adjourned without transacting any business.

Feb. 13.

The Speaker took the chair at three o'clock.

Mr. M. C. Cameron presented the final report of the East Northumberland election committee, stating that the petition against the election of Mr. Biggar had been withdrawn, and that the petition was not frivolous nor vexatious.

After some remarks by the Hon. Mr. Cartier, Attorney-General Macdonald, and Attorney-General Sicotte, the consideration of His Excellency's speech was postponed till to-morrow.

ARRIVAL OF THE HON. JOHN A. MACDONALD.—The Hon. John A. Macdonald has returned from Europe. He came on the Asia, by way of New York.

CULTIVATING THE CANADA TRADE.—A private letter from Manchester informs us that although business is still dull all round the district, yet, when the demand does come, there will no doubt be a good trade to be done, "and some are already laying themselves out for it, more particularly in the Canada direction. Your old acquaintance — & — have sent out one of their confidential men to drive the trade for them for this next spring demand." They seem to expect a grand collapse when once the panic sets in.—The knowing ones in New York, in autumn last anticipated the grand crash would come in April next.



**THE WESTERN STATES AND CANADA.**—An important resolution has just passed the Illinois Legislature, declaring that the commercial interests of their State suffer in consequence of the refusal of Congress to enlarge the Erie Canal, the Illinois Legislators have authorized the appointment of Commissioners to visit the Parliament of Canada and apply for improvement of transportation to the Atlantic. "What is the Leader" say the Federal Government to this evidence of secession from the Union? We trust Commissioners will have no cause to regret their visit to this Province.

**A CHANCE FOR FLAX-GROWERS.**—Messrs. Marshall, Leeds, have an agent in this country—Mr. John McKin, of Montreal—who has authority to make cash advances for flax consigned to Messrs. Marshall through him. This affords to the farmer, at once, the market he has been seeking. There is also a Mr. Ferguson at present in Sherbrooke, who is prepared to purchase flax on behalf of a Belfast house.

**THE BELLEVILLE FIRES.**—The second fire on Wednesday of last week was at the residence of Mr. James Rodley, West Belleville, which was totally destroyed. The loss is estimated at \$1,200. While the smoke was still ascending from the ruins, another fire broke out in the shed attached to Mr. Lockhart's dwelling, near Meyer's terrace, and soon communicated to the main building, which was owned by Mr. Charles Martin, and was uninsured. Loss about \$1,000. About 12 o'clock on the same night, the barn of Mr. J. C. Reid, at Rose's Corners, was, with its contents, destroyed by fire. Loss estimated at \$1,000; insured for \$600.

The Chronicle says many of the citizens feel the necessity of a thoroughly organized fire brigade. A new engine, and one of the best description, is needed. A highly efficient hook and ladder company has been, and a new engine company is being, organized.

The Fifteenth Battalion Volunteer Militia of Canada, Lt.-Col. A. Ponton, Commanding, was inspected at Belleville, on Thursday of last week, by Lt.-Col. Shaw, the Brigade Major of the District, who commented them highly on the very great proficiency they displayed.

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

To the Editor of the Madoc Mercury.

Mr. Editor, I am much obliged to you for the favourable notice you have been pleased to give of my *SHIRING AND OAT HARVESTING*. Permit me through your columns to inform my friends and the travelling public that I am not only prepared to take them through to Beaver Creek on the mill, but am ready on any other day in the week to serve my friends and customers, not only to Beaver Creek but to all parts of the County.

I am not able from press of business to take passengers myself, they may depend on having a steady and obliging driver sent with them.

I remain, Your obedient Servant,  
LYMAN MOON.

Madoc, 12th Dec., 1862.

**FOR SCHOOL BOOKS, STATIONERY, AND CHILDREN'S BOOKS,**

At Publishers' Prices, Call At

**WILSON'S DRUG STORE,**  
DURHAM STREET, MADOC.

**NEW STORE AT MADOC.**

**A. B. ROSS & BROTHER,**  
DEALERS IN STAPLE AND FANCY DRY GOODS,  
BOOTS AND SHOES, LEATHER, &c.

The Highest Price in Cash paid for Potatoes.

A. B. ROSS. S. D. ROSS.

**MADOC HOUSE.**

**NEW GOODS.**

**GOOD & BREAKELL,**  
General Merchants.

DEALERS IN DRY GOODS, HARDWARE, GROCERIES,  
COAL, OIL, LAMPS, BOOTS & SHOES, &c., &c., &c.

Cash paid for Grain and Potatoes.

Madoc, Nov., 1862.

## QUARTERLY MEETING

OF THE WESLEYAN METHODIST MISSION, at the JORDAN, on the 22nd FEBRUARY, at 10 A.M.  
The Rev. JOHN J. JACKSON, from Sidney Circuit, will be present; and officiate at the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper, and Baptism.

**DEANS & GRAY,**  
**GENERAL MERCHANTS.**

JAMES DEANS.

Madoc.

ROBERT T. GRAY.

**D. C. BROWN,**

**BLACKSMITH, HORSESHOER, &c.**

**JOBBER DONE AT ALL TIMES.**

Both in the Village, and near Raport's School-House.

**JOHN DALE,**

DEALER IN STOVES, TINWARE, SHEET IRON, &c.—  
A Large Assortment of COOKING and BOX STOVES  
always on hand.

**WILLIAM W. CORK,**  
Bailiff of Sixth Division Court,  
MADOC.

**MEDICAL HALL.**  
**C. G. WILSON,**  
CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

**A. F. WOOD,**  
**MARRIAGE LICENSE AGENT,**  
MADOC.

**G. D. RAWE,**  
**WATCH AND CLOCKMAKER,**  
DIVISION STREET, MADOC.

**ANDREW WRIGHT,**  
BAKER AND CONFECTIONER, East Side, Durham street  
Madoc.—A Large Assortment of Liquors, Groceries, and  
Provisions always on hand.

**MR. GREAM,**  
(Solicitor and Attorney of the Chancery and Law Courts  
of England)  
**Conveyancer, Coroner, &c.,**  
West Half of Lot 20 in the 7th Concession of Madoc.  
Mr. GREAM will attend in Madoc Village every  
Saturday.

**W. FINDLAY,**  
Town Clerk, Conveyancer, Notary Public, &c.  
Office, Town-Hall, Madoc.

**JAMES FITZGERALD,**  
ATTORNEY AND CONVEYANCER,  
MADOC.

**DR. THWAITES,**  
Madoc.

**MADOC GRIST MILL,**  
A. F. WOOD, Madoc.  
A thoroughly Competent Miller in charge.

**THE RUSSELL HOUSE, MADOC,**  
By A. Smiler,  
Corner of Madocwaika and Donald Streets.  
A FIRST CLASS HOUSE, in the business part of the  
town. A Good Yard and Stabling.

To Let, for a Term of Three or Five Years,

THE WELL-KNOWN TAVERN STAND OF JAMES JOHN-  
STON, on Lot No. 12, in the Fifth Concession of Madoc,  
with Five Acres of Land attached. For terms, which will be  
reasonable, apply on the premises.

## TO RENT, OR EXCHANGE FOR A SUITABLE HOUSE IN THE VILLAGE

**THE LARGE FRAME BUILDING,**  
On the North-East Corner of Lot No. 22, in the  
Fifth Concession of Madoc.

IMMEDIATELY ADJOINING KELLAN'S BRIDGE,  
Well Adapted either for a Store or Dwelling  
House.

For Particulars apply either on the spot to A. Smallfield, or if by letter, postpaid, at the Madoc Post Office.

**ENGLISH STOCK LOOKING UP IN THIS MARKET.**—The New York *Albion*, of the 14th inst., says:—Whatever the cause, it is no less gratifying than certain that a slight amelioration of public sentiment, in one particular respect, may be chronicled among the items of the day. On Thursday of last week the N. Y. Chamber of Commerce, at its monthly meeting, passed a long string of resolutions concerning the war, and these contained not a single allusion to the "unfriendly" port of Liverpool, or to "English pirates preying upon American commerce!" A strange fact, is it not—but here is another still more strange. On Saturday evening last, Mr. Cassius M. Clay made a speech at the Cooper Institute, on some special phase of Negro-logy, and omitted to season his discourse with denunciation, or any mention whatever of Great Britain!

**FROM EUROPE.**—The steamship *Asia*, from Liverpool on the 8th ult., via Queenstown on the 1st inst., arrived at New York on the 18th.

It is assumed by several writers that the Emperor's proposals are a more preliminary step to more important action, and if refused, recognition of the Confederates will probably follow, whether England follows or not. It is reported that the proposals were submitted to Slidell in advance, and that he and other secessionists pronounced them entirely inadmissible.

There are rumours of a new difficulty between the British and Washington Governments, owing to the seizure of English vessels near the Bahama coast.

The emancipation demonstration at Exeter Hall was a most enthusiastic affair, and in point of numbers was one of the most important since the days of the Anti-Corn Law League. The hall was crammed, and two other meetings formed out of the overflow. The resolutions reiterated the sentiments of the Emancipation Society, and expressed great sympathy for the North. Hostile amendments were instantly voted down, and the resolutions carried almost unanimously. The London Times was denounced amidst groans and hisses. Similar meetings were held at Bradford and other towns. The operatives of Bradford adopted a memorial thanking America for the relief afforded, and suggesting assistance to emigrate there as a more effectual way of affording relief.

Sir Robert Peel, in a speech, declared himself favourable to a separation of the North and South, and strongly condemned Lincoln's emancipation edict.

The threatening insurrection which broke out at the commencement of the year in Russian Poland, still smoulders, but "order reigns in Warsaw."

## MADOC MARKET PRICES.

SATURDAY, Feb. 21st, 1862.

ASHES	80 75 per cwt.
BARLEY	
OATS	75 to 40 cents.
WHEAT	80 to 90 cents.
PEAS	50 to 60 cents.
HIDES	\$4 to \$4 50.
PORK	60 1/2 to 65 per lb.
BUTTER	12 1/2 cents per lb.
HAY	\$12 per ton.

## HANNOCKBURN PRICES CURRENT.

WHEAT	50 50 to 50 50
OATS	25 50 to 25 50
PEAS	45 50 to 45 50
BUCKWHEAT	35 50 to 35 50
ASHES	\$12 1/2
BUTTER	
HIDES	\$4 25 to \$4 50.
HAY	\$12
STRAW	\$1 50 to \$1 50 per load.
POTATOES	25 to 30.

Feb. 21st, 1862.

## BELLEVILLE MARKET.

Spring Wheat, 10 50 to 10 50. Rye, 2 50. Barley, 3 50. Oats, 10 50. Potatoes, 10 50. Flour (Russett) 5 50. Flour (Graham) 5 50. Flour (Soft) 5 50. Potatoes, 10 50. Hay, 12 50. Straw, 1 50. Potatoes, 10 50. Butter, 12 1/2 to 14 1/2 per lb. Eggs, 10 50. Lard, 10 50.

**HOPE FOR THE BEST.**  
Why should we ever be shading  
Moments of parting with tears,  
Moments so speedily fading,  
Yet bearing the memory of years?  
Though Fate our destinies over-  
Though Fate a moment's despair—  
Still trusting in Providence ever,  
Still sit in hope for the best!

There is a star yet above us,  
Shining for happier days,  
There is a spirit to love us,  
Beaming beyond the star's rays!  
Though for a time we may sever,  
Clasp this deep truth to thy breast,  
Trusting in Providence ever,  
Come what there may—is the best!

(Concluded from last week.)  
**THE OFFICE-BOY.**

It was early autumn when she entered the office: the winter was over and gone, and one morning in early spring the editor came in, and as usual found a good fire, the office swept and dusted, and his boy at the desk, busily engaged in writing.

'Good morning, Alison,' said he pleasantly. 'I have been over to see Blake. He is decidedly better at last, and thinks he shall be able to go to work again in a few days.'

'And then you will want me no longer,' gasped Alice. And she turned very pale, and grasped at the desk to prevent herself from falling.

Mr. Morley saw the look, and the act, and stepped quickly forward.

'Do you really like your place and your employment so much?' he questioned.

'Ay, and my employer more than either,' she uttered, impulsively, and blushing at the words as soon as they were spoken.

'Do not be alarmed, then, for there are so few in the world that do that, that I cannot afford to lose one. Blake has received the offer of a better berth than I can give him, and will not come back to the office. To tell the truth, boy, you are worth quite as much to me as he ever was, with the exception of writing an editorial occasionally.'

'How do you know but that I could do that?'

'I think not; few possess or acquire the gift.'

'What will you have—the one you spoke of upon the condition of the times generally, or something else?' And with a blush, and smile, she passed him the paper upon which she was engaged at his entrance, with ink as yet scarcely dry upon the last page.

'Bravo!' exclaimed Mr. Morley, laughing, as he ran his eye over the page. 'I couldn't have done it better myself. Did you really do this, boy?'

'Certainly, sir. They used to say I had some knack at composition at school, and I've been trying my hand at it a little lately.'

'Why didn't I know you had such a talent before?'

'I hardly knew it myself.'

'But what are you trying to do with it?'

'Just practicing a little to get my hand in,' said Alice, blushing.

'I see it all,' said the editor, with a searching glance. 'You have looked weary and worn of late. You are sitting up nights, after a hard day's work, striving to realize some ambitious dream of authorship. You must not do so. You are too young. You will soon sacrifice your health, as your brother has done.'

'But in a case of necessity, sir—'

'What necessity, I should like to know? Do I not pay you enough for your support?'

'Yes, and much more—more than I dared hope for.'

'But you wear the same old clothes—you live in obscure lodgings—you go to no place of amusement—tell me, what you, for what you are denying yourself all the pleasures of youth?'

'I hate to plague you with my troubles, Mr. Morley.'

'It is no plague. I like to have those about me give me their confidence.'

'Well, sir, you know that my brother is sick, needing many comforts in a foreign land, where gold melts away like dew before the sun.'

'Ay, you told me as much before.'

'Well, he thought he took money enough out of with him to last until his return; but it was gone before he hardly realized the fact, and twice he has written for more—the last time saying he wanted quite a large sum to bring him home in the early summer, supposing all this time he had enough in the hands of a trusted friend to make him quite independent of surrounding circumstances. But that friend has failed. We have lost all our dependence; but I dared not tell him as yet, through fear that the shock might kill him. So what was I to do but contrive some way to supply the deficiency?'

'You should have come to me.'

'I had no claim upon you, sir. You have paid me all and more than I had earned, and there was no one else upon whom I could rely.'

'But what did you do?'

'I wrote.'

'What, pray?'

'Can you tell me who is the author of "Golden Dreams"?'—

'What, that long serial we began to-day?'

'You are not the author of that splendid story—the lady whom ill health prevented from calling to make the arrangement?'

'I believe so. And Alice laughed and blushed as she took the correspondence from her pocket and presented it to him—

'I will confess myself nonplussed and imposed on. For you recollect I told you that I could see the feminine characteristics sticking out all over it. But tell me why you deceived me so? Couldn't you have come to me in your own character just as well?'

'I feared you would despise the article coming from a mere boy; and besides, a little mystery is sometimes a benefit to an author, is it not?'

'Perhaps. But how you must have enjoyed the freedom of my comments. Authors don't often have so fine an opportunity to hear themselves cut up,' said he, laughing.

'You were very kind, and I thank you,' said Alice, tearfully; and in accepting what has caused me so much care and anxiety, you have relieved my mind from a great burden.'

Mr. Morley chided her for risking her health and life in the night watches that the articles must have cost her, yet he could not help admiring the self-sacrificing devotion that led to it.

'The world attributes all the nobleness, generosity, and self-devotion in the universe to weak, vain, frivolous women; but give me a man or a boy for the display of such sentiments,' he thought, and in consideration of this he gave her an extra fifty dollars for the story, for which Alice was sufficiently grateful.

The mail that carried Arthur his remittance, in due time brought Alice his reply, and she was rejoicing in heart at the near prospect of his return, with renewed health and brighter hopes, when a circumstance happened that changed the aspect of everything materially. In taking out her handkerchief one day, as she was about to leave the office on some errand, Arthur's last letter came out without her observing it. Mr. Morley was absorbed at the time, and did not notice it; but rising for something not long after, he observed and picked it up, to see what it was.

'Some office paper, I suppose. Ay, an open letter. "Miss Alice Hamlin, 510 Cherry street, W. L. postmark. Alice Hamlin, who can that be? Patron or correspondent? 510!" As I live, that is Alison's number! What does it all mean?' And eagerly opening the mysterious epistle, our editor read as follows—

HAVANA, Cuba, May 25, 1859.

DEAR SISTER ALICE:—You can't imagine how glad I was to hear from you and receive that welcome remittance, for my money was all gone; I was beset with duns on every side, and expected every moment to be turned out of doors by my landlady. I had sought in vain for employment, retrenched every expense, and sold my watch and most valuable effects to satisfy my grasping creditors, and but for this timely relief, must have shipped as a foremast hand, and run away to avoid paying a few small debts. I feared you were ill, that my letter had miscarried, or that there was some trouble with Harding about getting the money; but did you come for me, at the earliest possible moment. My health is very much improved, and now that I have the means, I shall come home at once, and you may expect me by the next steamer. Yours, now and ever,

ARTHUR HAMLIN.

There could be but one solution to all this; and we won't say our bachelor editor's heart didn't give a bound as the truth flashed over him, or that he was very angry at the thought that the boy he had befriended so much, who had been his constant and almost only companion for months, who had grown into his affections, and won his admiration as boy had never done before, was a girl after all! What a goose he had been, not to have known it all the time. He remembered now that she had revealed herself in a dozen different ways, had he but thought of it, and he wondered now that he had been blind so long. He had half a mind to wait and amuse himself by seeing when and how she would reveal herself; but he was too eager for the denouement to do this, and besides, he judged rightly in supposing that she would drop the character and disappear without explanation, when her brother returned, for such had been her intention.

People were called that afternoon thought our editor wonderfully absent-minded; but his wandering was caused by the fact that he had been thinking of Alice's return in the evening. Waiting till the evening's work was done, and they were about to quit the office, he turned to her suddenly, and said:

'Have you lost anything lately, Alison?' said Alison.

'Not that I know of.' And Alice put her hand in her pocket, but without discovering her loss.

'Does this belong to you?' And he regarded her with a keen, searching glance, as he gazed at her letter.

She took it carelessly, but the instant she glanced at the superscription, and then up to his face, she knew that he had discovered the truth, and crimsoning to the roots of her hair, and overcome by an impulse of shame, she turned without a word, and was leaving the office, when a firm hand was laid upon her arm.

'Do not go, Alice, or grieve that the truth is revealed to me,' said Mr. Morley, earnestly. 'I know your motives, and what were your necessities too well; I blame you very severely. But you must have known that it was a dangerous experiment.'

'My choice was between that, starvation and the streets,' sobbed Alice, shuddering at the remembrance; and now you can disgrace and turn me out again; if you wish;' and she sank into a seat and buried her face in her hands.

'Alice, have I ever given you reason to wrong me thus?' said Mr. Morley, in a deeply agitated voice.

'No, no; you have been all that is noble, kind, and generous, and for my sake, as well as your own, you will keep my secret, and shield my name from obloquy.'

'Your trust in me shall not be in vain, Alice.'

'But I must leave you. You will not have a woman in your office, knowingly.'

'Yet I cannot spare you, Alice. You have done me a world of good, and almost saved my life by coming here, and now I cannot begin to do without you.'

'But you must, for Arthur is coming home, and I would not have him know—' She had hushed her sobs, but the expression of his face, as she looked up, made her hesitate.

'Alice,' he said, in a tone that was eloquent with emotion, 'if I know myself, the world would be a blank to me if you should leave me forever. O, stay with me always, and become my wife.'

'But you hate women. You despise the whole sex.'

'I hate their vanity and folly; you have none of it, and if you could but return a tithe of the deep love I bear you, I could worship the whole of them for your sake. You know me well, and that I am many years your senior, and knowing this, can you love me well enough to be my wife?'

Alice looked up into the strong manly face that bent over her, to read its anxious solicitude for her favour; but still she doubted.

'You know my poverty and dependence,' she said, 'and it is pity alone that you feel for me.'

'No, by my hopes of heaven! For years a lonely-hearted man, I felt the magnetism of your presence, though I knew not all the causes, from the moment you first entered the office. But I see how it is. You cannot return my affection, and say in your heart that the bright spring and the dreary autumn were never designed for the same place in the seasons. My ago and plain person,' said he, sorrowfully, 'are—'

'No objections with me,' said Alice, impulsively. 'Did you think I could not see the noble soul through its plain outward setting? Or that all your kindness and generosity were lost upon me? No, Mr. Morley, I have seen and felt it all, as an impulsive woman must, and for months I have been conscious of such a deep and absorbing love for you as I had never felt for another.'

'Thank God for the precious gift, my darling,' he said, as the blushing face was hid for a brief moment upon the bosom to which she was pressed so tenderly. 'Life will bloom anew for me, if this is true, dear Alice.'

'But you know my poverty, my inferiority of intellect when compared with your own,' she murmured.

'Not a word of that. I value you above the wealth of the Indies, and in intellect few men can compare with you.'

Need we say that Arthur Hamlin, upon his return to the North, took the 'boy's' place in the office as a junior partner in the firm, or that Alice was joined in another and dearer partnership with the chief or senior partner of the establishment?

Why is the circulation of the blood sometimes suspended? Because it attempts to circulate in vain. Rich men have commonly more need to be taught contentment than the poor, because all men's expectations grow faster than their fortunes.

**REMEDY FOR THE TOOTHACHE.**—A mixture of two parts of the liquid ammonia of commerce, with one of some simple tincture, is recommended as a remedy for toothache. A piece of lint is dipped into this mixture, and introduced into the carious tooth, when the nerve is immediately cauterized and the pain stopped.



# THE MADOC MERCURY

## AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

MADOC, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1863.

PRICE TWO CENTS.

### THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

#### THE SOUTHWEST.

despatch from Memphis says:—Advices from state that the Confederates at Fort Hudson are communicating with the Gulf by way of the Atchafalaya river. The ram Queen of the West (which lately rebel blockade) of the Mississippi at Vicksburg, as soon as she is repaired, will interrupt that communication.

A million bales of cotton are below Helena, waiting Grant's permission to ship. A party of guerrillas fired into the ram Dick Fulton at Cypress Bend, and killed several of her crew, towing coal to the fleet, and would have been recaptured, but was saved by the gunboat Rattler.

Advices from New Orleans state that preparations in active progress for the new campaign in the rebel country. Brig-Gen. Weitzel was on the departure with his expedition up the Bayou Lafourche. The movement is said to have actually commenced on the 8th inst. A letter says the progress of the expedition will by no means prove bloodless, but overcome resistance at every step. He will be supported by some four or five guns. The force of the enemy is 6,500, under Gen. Dick

the 28th ult., the gunboat Owaseo, Captain Wilson, was dispatched to Galveston, with orders to run to harbour and examine as carefully as possible, drawing their fire, the position and strength of batteries that might be effected or in process of construction. Capt. Wilson had returned to New Orleans, and reported the Harriet Lane still at Galveston. He is certain that she is disabled.

An official report of Lieut. Blake, commanding the Hatteras at the time of her engagement with the rebels, shows that there never was the least foundation for the rumour that the Hatteras was sunk by M. A. Sloop-of-war Spitfire. He was fully aware of the fact that his adversary was the Alabama. A despatch from Memphis, of the 17th, says that the gunboat Indiana ran the blockade at Vicksburg on Friday night. In spite of the precautions the Indiana was seen, and the Confederates evaded with each other in their efforts to sink her, however, passed all safely.

A victory at Fort Donelson—where the Confederates were repulsed in their determined attempt to recapture the fort—was won, it now appears, by the forces which reached the scene of action and throwing shells among the assailants; after which the fort was entirely surrounded. Their lack of artillery ammunition was in the guns of the gunboats arrived.

Attacking the levees of the Mississippi was by Gen. Grant, who hopes by this means to reduce Vicksburg. An immense expanse of country is flooded, and communication opened by gunboats and steamboats to a point in the Mississippi. It is supposed he will be able to cut off the enemy's transport fleet, now safely protected by the batteries at Hainesport, and at the same time transport a large land force to cut off the Vicksburg army from communication with the interior.

### THE CHARLESTON BLOCKADE.

Commanding officers of the U. S. vessels lying off Charleston bar on the morning of

the attack of the rams on the squadron have signed a certificate, in which they deem it their duty to state that the results, as given in the Confederate account are "false in every particular." They describe at length the positions occupied by their own vessels and conclude by "believing" the statement that any vessel came anywhere near the usual anchorage of the blockaders, "to be deliberately and knowingly false."

"If the statement from the papers, as now before us, has the sanction of the Petrel and the foreign Consuls, we can only deplore that foreign officers can lend their official positions to the spreading before the world for an unworthy object, untruths patent to every officer of the squadron."

### THE WAR AND NEW ENGLAND MANUFACTURERS.

The annual report of the Massachusetts Bank Commissioners contains some highly interesting statements as to the effect of the war on the productive industry of the State, as well as its capital.

"Seldom, if ever, has the business of Massachusetts been more active, or profitable, than during the past year. The war has brought into activity many mechanical employments for which there is little occasion in time of peace; such, for example, as the manufacture of arms and ordnance, camp and garrison equipage, saddlery and artillery harness, and military clothing and accoutrements. It has, also, greatly stimulated the manufacture of boots and shoes, and of woollen goods; while the subsistence of the army has furnished a constant and remunerative market for breadstuffs and provisions. There is hardly a branch of domestic industry which has not been actively employed. The cotton manufacture alone has been interrupted by the loss of the raw material, and has given less occupation to labour than usual; but there was never a time since this branch of industry established itself in New England, when the profits realised from it have been so considerable. Dividends have been made exceeding any former precedent, and to ensure and equalize dividends hereafter. Advantage has been taken of the stoppage of mills, to put machinery and buildings in thorough repair, so that whenever the supply of cotton is once more abundant, the manufacturers of Massachusetts will be better prepared than ever before to reap all the advantages incident to the occasion. Nor has the condition of the operatives, deprived of their usual employment, been materially impaired. So great has been the draft upon the male population to fill the army, that there has been an unusual demand for men's labour in other directions; while female operatives have found occupation in the manufactories of clothing, in the attendance of shops, and in domestic service.

In our report for 1860 we spoke of the depressed state of the shoe trade, the most important of all the industrial interests of Massachusetts. The extent of this production, and its rapid development, are but imperfectly realised by the people of the Commonwealth. In 1860, the value of boots and shoes manufactured in Massachusetts was \$46,440,000, being an increase of 92 per cent. over the product of 1850. The value of the cotton goods produced in the same year was \$36,740,000, and the increase over 1850 69 per cent. The wants of the army have come in to make good the loss of the Southern market, and the Government has been a liberal and sure, if not ready paymaster.

### EXPECTED ATTACK ON CHARLESTON.

A gentleman recently from Charleston, who escaped through the Confederate lines, states that large numbers of troops have lately been collected there, to defend the city, and that the citizens have generally left, in anticipation of an attack from the national troops. The means of defence are very formidable, and he thinks the city cannot be captured without a severe struggle. The city is strongly fortified on all

sides but the west, and supplied with iron-clad monitors to defend the harbour. Two of these are destitute of machinery, probably those for which the engines, captured in the Princess Royal, were designed.

### VARIETIES.

Never take a nap in a railway carriage. 'Cos why, the train always runs over sleepers.

A negro's idea of destitution is described as a plea of poverty.

The January dividends of the two great fire insurance companies in Hartford, Colt's and Sharp's, together amount to nearly \$1,000,000.

The Dictator, a new Hudson river steamboat now building at New York, to be completed early in the summer, will be the largest river steamboat afloat, containing 350 state-rooms, and with an external length of 450 feet. She is to be finished in the very finest style, and to take the place of the New World between Albany and New York.

A New Jersey man, noted for impertinability and a scolding wife, was stopped one night in the woods by a pretended ghost. He only said: "I can't stop my friend; if you are a man I must request you to get out of the way and let me pass; if you are the devil, come along and take supper. I married your sister!"

Illinois, says an American paper, is a good State to live in. Governor Yates, in his late message, says:—"She now produces twice as much corn as any other State; almost twice as much wheat; in meat cattle, the first; in hogs, but little behind Ohio; and in the value of live stock of all kinds, she is already the second State in the Union."—There are, however, certain drawbacks—high taxes, and very low prices for produce.

THE L. C. COPPER MINES.—The Sherbrooke Leader says that Mr. Clarke, High Constable of Sherbrooke, has sold his copper mine, within three miles of that town, to Lord Aylmer, for \$200,000. The mine was discovered only a few months since, but the richness of the ore taken out while sinking shafts to ascertain the extent of the copper, was such as to indicate great value. Sir W. E. Logan has been here this week. He examined the Ascot mine, and that recently sold by Mr. Clarke. We believe he will also examine a copper mine at Ham, belonging to the British American Land and Copper Company, and which is said to be very rich in copper.

THE GOLD DEPOSITS OF CANADA.—Dr. Storty Hunt lately read a paper, at a meeting of the Natural History Society of Canada, held in Montreal, on the gold deposits of Canada. The sand and gravel over a great area of Eastern Canada occupying the hill country and the region southeast to the frontier is a gold-bearing. Dr. Hunt anticipates that before long the enormous deposits of gold bearing earth in Canada will be turned to profit.

THE LILLIPUTIANS.—As Tom Thumb and his bride were passing down the staircase at the Continental Hotel, Philadelphia, a gentleman accidentally trod upon the skirt of Mrs. Thumb's dress. The general turned round, looked daggers at him, and spiritedly said: "I'll thank you to take your foot from my lady's dress, sir." The gentleman laughed, and apologized. Just before leaving, some of the boarders at the hotel came to bid them a kindly good bye. Among them was a tall stripling of sixteen years, fully twice the height of the dwarf. He held out his hand: "Good bye, general; a pleasant journey to you." "Thankee, Bubi!" was the reply of the general. "Be a good boy, and mind your ma." The youngster was taken aback by this patronising remark of the pigmy, but couldn't resent it. The Thumb inherited the Yankee appreciation of money. They had a few card photographs of themselves in wedding costume. A gentleman of rank who desired to procure one, and sent his card to the general with a request for one, was informed that the cards were to be had at the book stand. The diminutive Thomas, even upon the bridal tour, looks out for the turning of an honest penny, and his agent sold five hundred of his vignette cards at a round figure to the vendors in question.

## THE MADOC MERCURY

AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

A Weekly Journal of Local and General Information.

Will be Published every Saturday Morning, at Two Cents a Copy, or One Dollar a Year, *seasonably in advance.*

ADVERTISEMENTS WILL BE INSERTED ON THE FOLLOWING TERMS FOR CASH:—

Six lines, first insertion	0 50
Each subsequent insertion	0 12 1/2
Six to ten lines, first insertion	0 70
Each subsequent insertion	0 18
Above ten lines (per line) first insertion	0 07
Each subsequent insertion, per line	0 02

All Communications for the MERCURY to be addressed, (post-paid) to A. SMALLFIELD, Madoc Post Office.

For sale at WILSON'S MEDICAL HALL, Madoc, where Subscribers in and near the village may obtain their copies, and orders for the paper and advertisements will obligingly be received.

SUBSCRIPTIONS PAYABLE YEARLY OR QUARTERLY IN ADVANCE.

The regular issue of the *Intelligencer* will be resumed on Friday next—the new type and material having arrived from New York.The *Independent* will change its day of publication from Saturday to Tuesday, for the future. New type has been ordered from New York, which will enable the proprietor to give one-half more reading matter than formerly. The price will be correspondingly increased.

## THE MADOC MERCURY

AND NORTH RIDING NEWS.

MADOC, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28.

## NORTH HASTINGS AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.

On Friday, the 20th inst., the Directors of the North Hastings Agricultural Society for 1868 held their first meeting at the Town Hall, Huntingdon. There was a full attendance, and considerable interest was manifested in the various matters that came up for consideration.

It was determined to purchase 150 bushels of spring wheat, outside the County, for seed; also 25 bushels each of clover and timothy seed. This duty was intrusted to Mr. Matanah Kerr, the 1st vice president. The divisions were made somewhat in proportion to members—Madoc coming in for 25 bushels wheat, 6 bushels clover seed and 7 bushels timothy seed. Members get these with a discount of 20 per cent.

Mr. Hayes introduced a motion "to purchase, upon the credit of the society, 400 bushels wheat for seed, to be sold to the back settlers at cost." Many of the Directors approved the principle, but did not think it advisable for the Society to run into debt under the restrictions imposed by the present law. The motion was not carried, but it is the intention of the Directors in Madoc to raise the means in some way, in order to avail themselves of the opportunity offered by the Board of Mr. Kerr's services to purchase for them any quantity they may furnish means for, so that good seed may be had by those who wish to purchase.

After a somewhat protracted discussion, the place for the next Agricultural Fair was

selected—by a majority of one—on the Madoc Road, near Mr. Luke's; he having kindly placed at the service of the Directors the building on the hill formerly occupied as a tavern. It is to be hoped that the people of Madoc, Rawdon, Marmora, and East Huntingdon will show by the interest they take in the fair, that they appreciate the action of the Directors.

A very pleasant episode took place during the meeting. A deputation from a Tea meeting in the stone church near by waited on the Directors, and solicited their attendance at the church and participation in a lunch to be served there. The Directors accepted the courteous invitation and adjourned to the church. There they found a large number of the farmers of the neighbourhood, who with their wives and daughters, assisted by the Rev. Mr. Robinson, did all in their power to make the visit pleasant. After lunch, Mr. James Foster, the president of the Sabbath school (of which this meeting was the anniversary,) took the chair, and called to the platform several of the Directors. The president of the Society, Mr. Archibald, made some appropriate remarks, thanking them for the kind entertainment. Mr. Kerr, Mr. A. F. Wood and Mr. M. P. Hayes also gave short addresses to the children, and those present. The Directors were anxious to compensate their kind entertainers by paying as is usual at gatherings of this kind, but they would not be listened to. After giving a vote of thanks, they returned to the Hall, long to remember the kind and courteous people of Huntingdon.

The balance of the business in connection with the Agricultural Society was then disposed of.

A DORCAS SOCIETY has been initiated under the auspices and at the suggestion of the Rev. Mr. Whitmarsh and his estimable wife, at Madoc. The Society consists of the Dames of the neighbourhood, who meet at the Rev. Gentleman's house every Friday evening. The object of the meeting is to make up clothes for such as need assistance. It is open to all denominations, and we trust it will meet with the success it deserves.

LET US HAVE A BIG BELL!—This evening there will be a grand vocal and instrumental concert at the Brick School-house in this village, under the management of Mr. G. W. Lester of the Belleville Athenæum, who will appear in a variety of his most popular songs, recitations, &c. He will be assisted by Mr. Schuyler, of Belleville, and by several amateurs of the village. The proceeds of the entertainment will be devoted to the purchase of a large bell, to be placed in some appropriate part of the village, and used for fire alarms, and other public purposes. The project is not of very origin, having been agitated, we believe, some while since; but no better time could probably be chosen than the present—in view of the serious losses by fire lately happening in Belleville—for enforcing the necessity of obtaining an effective alarm bell. But the bell will not be of much use, unless there is a good fire-engine, for the protection of the large amount of property now to be found in Madoc. The expense would probably be counterbalanced by reduced rates of insurance.

Read "Improvements" letter on next page.

THE VOLUNTEERS.—We have been informed that Major Findlay, commanding the Volunteer Infantry Company of Madoc, received the arms, grescoats, and accoutrements on Wednesday last for the use of the men composing the same. The guns are the long Enfield rifles, with bayonets, all new, and of the best description,—are very handsome pieces, and can be used with dexterity. The grescoats are of the first class, new, well made, and adapted for any kind of wear. The pouches and belts are mostly new, and are made to fit with the greatest exactness. And when the men are drilled so as to use them, they cannot fail to add much to the appearance of the Volunteers. The Village and Township ought to feel proud that they have a Company of men that in a few months will be able to use such weapons with advantage when called on. On the arrival of the cases, the youth of the Village were all excitement and anxiety, and showed much interest in the movement.

Major Findlay is to call out the Company in a few days and make the necessary arrangements for squad drill.

The want of a public armoury is very much felt, and something ought to be done by the authorities to get one.

We observe that in the debate on the Address, Mr. J. S. Macdonald denied it was understood that volunteers in Class B would get 50 cents a day. If the Province cannot afford that sum for its defence, some of the Volunteers who have already given their names in under a mistaken impression, will be apt not to attend when called out to drill.

TEA MEETING.—The public are invited to attend a rare entertainment in the M. E. church in this village, on the evening of Wednesday next. Good speeches, better music, and the best Japan tea, with the good things of the season in the way of edibles, are promised on the occasion. The proceeds are intended for the benefit of the circuit.

TEA MEETING AT THE JORDAN.—On Tuesday afternoon next, a tea meeting will be held in the Orange Lodge at the Jordan, for the benefit of the Hastings Road Mission. The chair will be taken by A. F. Wood, Esq., the Warden of the County, and addresses, it is expected, will be made by the Revs. J. W. German, of Stirling; E. Harris and A. D. Miller, of Madoc, and M. M. Johnston, of Hungerford. When we add that that the Rev. R. Potter, now of Frankford, but formerly engaged on the mission, is invited, a large attendance may be looked for.

## PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT.

SECOND SESSION OF THE SEVENTH PARLIAMENT OF UNITED CANADA.

## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

QUEBEC, Feb. 19.

The Speaker took the chair at three o'clock, and after some routine business; the House proceeded to wait upon His Excellency with the Address. His Excellency thanked them therefor, and was pleased to hear that the House purposed applying themselves with zeal to the discharge of their Legislative duties.

On returning to the Legislative Council Chamber, a standing committee was struck on the contingent expenses of the House; on standing orders and private bills; on banks and commerce; on the journals of the past and present session; and on printing.

Hon. Mr. Alexander introduced a bill for the better protection of sheep in Upper Canada.

Hon. Mr. Currie introduced a bill to enable municipalities in Upper Canada having surplus clergy reserve funds to apply the same to educational purposes, under certain restrictions.

Feb. 20.

Several petitions, praying for the establishment of a Credit Foncier Bank, were presented.

The following bills were read a first time.—To limit the area of towns and villages in Upper Canada. To give relief to persons who, from conscientious scruples, refuse to take oaths in civil or criminal cases. To amend the Common Law Procedure Act. To amend the Act relating to the summary administration of criminal justice in certain cases. To amend the assessment Law of Upper Canada.



Hon. Mr. Alexander moved for a committee on Emigration, whose special duty would be to inquire and report upon the best means of diffusing information among men of capital in Europe as to the advantages this country offered for settlement and for manufactures. The committee to be composed of Messrs. Tessier, Letellier, De St. Just, McMaster, Read, and the mover.—Carried.

#### LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

Mr. Rankin moved the adoption of the Address in reply to His Excellency's speech from the throne at the commencement of the session. Mr. Joly seconded the motion. The debate has been continued at great length. An amendment to the third paragraph—moved by Mr. M. C. Cameron, and seconded by Mr. Morrison—deeply regretting that His Excellency has not been advised to commend for our adoption some measure for securing to the large population of Upper Canada their rightful Parliamentary representation, and their just influence in the Government—was, after debate, lost,—by yeas 42, to nays 64.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Madoc Mercury.

MADOC, Feb. 23, 1863.

MY DEAR SIR,—It is of the greatest importance to the settlers north of Madoc, and equally to the citizens of the Township of Madoc and the Village of Hastings, that the County Road leading from the Village of Hastings to the Hastings Road should be opened up and improved without further delay.

While other County roads have been improved by large sums of money being expended on them, this road—one of the most important in the County—has been almost altogether neglected. Just now, considerable stress is being laid upon the necessity of improving a certain road leading from Marmora Village into Belmont; and we have also noticed considerable agitation about a road north from Marmora into Lake. Eight hundred dollars was expended last year upon a road from Thomasburgh, north; and a considerable sum upon the road and bridges north of Bridgewater to Flintof. Mr. Bogart also thinks that the road leading into the part of Hungerford where he has made considerable improvements should have a respectable sum granted upon it. Now, sir, these grants that have been made may be very beneficial, and those asked for may be very desirable, but all the grants made or proposed on the sections I have named, do not, nor will half, equal the amount of good that would be effected were it all laid out on the road between the Village of Hastings and the Government Road.

This seems a rather broad assertion, but it is nevertheless true. Just let us for a moment look at the facts. During the last summer and winter not less than 500 barrels of potash have been drawn over the road now substituted for the direct County road. All the provisions and supplies necessary for a population of two or three thousand souls have to pass over this road, and much of that at a season when it is almost impracticable. The settlement back is rapidly increasing, and if good roads are opened up, it will increase in a corresponding ratio—and like all new settlements will require supplies for some time. The Government have intimated their intention of expending a considerable sum on the Hastings Road during the coming summer, and I hope the County Council will not be found remiss in their part. Will not some of the County Councillors look to this matter? The Warden and Deputy Reeve should look after this, and so should the Reeve from Tudor. I have not the slightest doubt that if the importance of improving the road was laid before the County Council in its proper light, but what a liberal grant would be made, I trust, sir, this will be done, and that next autumn will see the direct road from our village, north—the County road—the link connecting the great line of road from Belleville back into the interior nearly 150 miles—opened up, and made suitable for the large and increasing travel.

To say it ought to be is not the proper term,—that it must be is the only thing that applies to the great necessity. Yours, &c.,

IMPROVEMENT.

### ADVERTISEMENTS.

#### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN.

TAKE NOTICE that THE COUNCIL of the CORPORATION of the COUNTY of HASTINGS will meet at the SHIRE HALL, in Belleville,

On TUESDAY, the 10th day of MARCH next, For the dispatch of general business. By Order, THOMAS WILLIS, Co. Clerk, C. H. Belleville, Feb. 24th, 1863.

#### AUCTION SALE.

E. D. O'FLYNN

WILL OFFER FOR SALE, BY PUBLIC AUCTION, On THURSDAY, FRIDAY, and SATURDAY,

5TH, 6TH, and 7TH MARCH PROX.

The Whole of His STOCK,

CONSISTING OF

Dry Goods, Groceries, Hardware, Ready Made Clothing, Boots and Shoes, &c., &c.

SALE to commence on THURSDAY, at Ten o'Clock, A.M.

To the Editor of the Madoc Mercury.

MR. EDITOR.—I am much obliged to you for the favourable notice you have been pleased to take of my STRIKING AND GAY LOOKING STOVE SELECTION. Permit me through your columns to inform my friends and the travelling public that I am not only prepared to take them through to Beaver Creek on the mud days, but am ready on any other day in the week to serve my friends and customers, not only to Beaver Creek but to all parts of the County.

If I am not able from press of business to take passengers myself, they may depend on having a steady and obliging driver sent with them.

I remain, Your obedient Servant,

LYMAN MOON.

Madoc, 13th Dec., 1862.

FOR SCHOOL BOOKS, STATIONERY, AND CHILDREN'S BOOKS,

At Publishers' Prices, Call At

WILSON'S DRUG STORE,

DURHAM STREET, MADOC.

NEW STORE AT MADOC.

A. B. ROSS & BROTHER,

DEALERS IN STAPLE AND FANCY DRY GOODS,

BOOTS AND SHOES, LEATHER, &c.

The Highest Price in Cash paid for Potash.

A. B. ROSS.

S. D. ROSS.

MADOC HOUSE.

NEW GOODS.

WOOD & BREAKELL,

General Merchants,

DEALERS IN DRY GOODS, HARDWARE, GROCERIES, COAL OIL LAMPS, BOOTS & SHOES, &c., &c.

Cash paid for Grain and Potash.

Madoc, Nov., 1862.

DEANS & GRAY,

GENERAL MERCHANTS

JAMES DEANS.

Madoc.

ROBERT T. GRAY.

D. C. BROWN,

BLACKSMITH, HORSESHOE, &c.

JOBBER DONE AT ALL TIMES,

Both in the Village, and near Rupert's School-House.

JOHN DALE

DEALER IN STOVES, TINWARE, SHEET IRON, &c.—A Large Assortment of COOKING and BOX STOVES always on hand.

WILLIAM W. CORK, JHT  
Bailiff of Sixth Division Court,  
MADOC.

MEDICAL HALL.

DURHAM STREET, MADOC.

C. G. WILSON,

CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST.

A. F. WOOD,

MARRIAGE LICENSE AGENT.  
MADOC.

G. D. R. AWE,

WATCH AND CLOCKMAKER,  
DIVISION STREET, MADOC.

ANDREW WRIGHT,

BAKER AND CONFECTIONER, East Side, Durham Street, Madoc.—A Large Assortment of Liquors, Groceries, and Provisions always on hand.

MR. GREAM,

(Solicitor and Attorney of the Chancery and Law Courts of England)

Conveyancer, Coroner, &c.,

West Half of Lot 20 in the 7th Concession of Madoc. Mr. GREAM will attend in Madoc Village every Saturday.

W. FINDLAY,

Town Clerk, Conveyancer, Notary Public, &c.  
Office, Town-Hall, Madoc.

JAMES FITZGERALD,

ATTORNEY AND CONVEYANCER  
MADOC.

DR. THWAITES,

Madoc.

MADOC GRIST MILL,

A. F. WOOD, Madoc.

A thoroughly Competent Miller in charge.

THE RUSSELL HOUSE, MADOC.

By A. Snider,

Corner of Madawaska and Donald Streets.

A FIRST CLASS HOUSE, in the business part of the town. A Good Yard and Stabling.

To Let, for a Term of Three or Five Years,

THE WELL-KNOWN TAVERN STAND of JAMES JOHNSTON, on Lot No. 13, in the Fifth Concession of Madoc, with Five Acres of Land attached. For terms, which will be reasonable, apply on the premises.

MADOC MARKET PRICES.

SATURDAY, Feb. 25th, 1863.

ASHES	55 75 ¢ cwt.
BARLEY	35 to 40 cents.
OATS	30 to 35 cents.
WHEAT	50 to 60 cents.
PEAS	\$4 to \$4.50.
HIDES	38 1/2 to 39 ¢ bbl.
BUTTER	12 1/2 cents ¢ lb.
HAY	\$12 ¢ ton.

BANNOCKBURN PRICES CURRENT.

WHEAT	\$0 50 ¢ \$0 55
OATS	25 ¢ 37 1/2
PEAS	45 ¢ 50
BUCKWHEAT	20 ¢ 25
ASHES, 112 lb.	
BUTTER	
HIDES, 45 ¢ 55 ¢ bbl.	
HAY, \$12.	
STRAW, \$1 50 ¢ \$2 00 per load.	
POTATOES, 25 ¢ ¢ bbl.	

Feb. 25th, 1863.

BELLEVILLE MARKETS.

Spring Wheat, 4s 0d to 4s 3d. Rye, 3s 0d. Barley, 4s 0d to 4s 3d. Oats, 1s 0d. Peas, 2s 0d. Flour (Retail) 5 bbl., 25 00. Flour, \$100 bbl., 11s 3d to 11s 6d. Potash, 5 cwt., 30 00. Hay, 1 ton, 12 00. Potatoes, 5 bushel, 10 00. Beef, 7 ¢ cwt., 20 00 to 22 00. Pork, 7 ¢ cwt., the 5d to 6d. Butter, 7 ¢ lb to 7 1/2 ¢ lb. Eggs, 5 ¢ doz. 1/2 doz.

## THE TRUE GENTLEMAN

He is always thoughtful and kind  
By rule of virtue never;  
Whose generous tongue discloses to speak  
The thing his heart disapproves.

Who never did a wrong deed,  
His neighbor's name to reveal;  
Nor harkens to a false report,  
By malice whispered round.

Who wins in all his pomp and power,  
Can treat with just disdain;  
And pity, though clothed in rage,  
Religiously respect.

Who to his righteous words and trust  
His neighbor's name to reveal;  
And, though he promises to his loss,  
He makes his promise good.

Whom soul in weary disdain  
His treasury to employ;  
Whom no reward can ever bribe  
The gentleman is true.

Who to his righteous words and trust  
His neighbor's name to reveal;  
And, though he promises to his loss,  
He makes his promise good.

A NIGHT OF HORROR.  
A TRUE STORY.

was the member of the family selected to escort Lady Speldhurst to her room—the room I had staid in her favour. I did not much like the office. It is a remarkable repugnance to my godmother, but worthy aunts insisted so much that I should initiate myself with one who had so much to leave, I could not but comply. The visitor hobbled up broad oaken stairs actively enough, propped on arm and her ivory crutch. The room had never been more genial and pretty, with its bristly fern furniture, and the gay French paper on the walls.

A nice room, my dear, and I ought to be much obliged to you for it, since my maid, tells me it is hers," said her ladyship; "but I am pretty sure a repeat your generosity to me, after all those old stories, and tremble to think of a strange bed chamber, eh?"

"I made some commonplace reply. The old lady arched her eyebrows, and said: "Where have they put you, child? In some cock of the baronet, or in a lumber room—a regular ghost-trap? You can hear your heart beating with this moment. You are not fit to be alone." I tried to call up my pride, and laugh off the accusation against my courage, all the more, perhaps, because I felt its truth.

"Do you want anything more that I can get you, dy Speldhurst?" I asked, trying to feign a yawn.

The old dame's keen eyes were upon me. "I hear like you, my dear," she said, "and I liked or mamma well enough before she treated me so unbecomingly about the christening dinner. Now I know I'm frightened and fearful, and if an owl should flap your window to-night, it might drive you into it. There is a nice little sofa-bed in this dressing-room—call your maid to arrange it for you, and you sleep there snugly, under the old witch's protection, and then no goblin dare harm you, and nobody'll be a bit the wiser, or quiz you for being afraid." How little I knew what hung in the balance of my refusal or acceptance of that trivial proffer? Had the will of the future been lifted for one instant! but that it is impotent to our gaze. Yet, perhaps, she had a glimpse into the dim vista beyond—she who made the offer; for when I declined, with an affected sigh, she said, in a thoughtful, half abstracted manner—

"Well, well! we must all take our own way through the Good night—pleasant dreams!" I softly closed the door. As I did so, she looked round at me as rapidly, with a glance I have never forgotten, half malicious, half sad, as if she had discerned the yawning gulf that was to devour my young ones. It may have been mere eccentricity, the odd fantasy of a crooked mind, the whimsical conduct of a cynical person, triumphant in the power of afflicting youth and beauty. Or, I have since thought, may have been that this singular guest possessed some such gifts as the Highland "second sight," a gift, vague, said, and useless to its possessor, but sufficient to convey a dim sense of the coming and boding doom. And yet, had she really known that was in store for me, what lurked behind the veil of the future, not even that arid heart could have remained impassive to the cry of humanity. She would, she must have snatched me back, even from the edge of the black pit of misery. But, doubtless, she had not the power. Doubtless she had but a shadowy recollection, at any rate, of some harm to happen, and could not see, save darkly, into the viewless void where the wisest tremble.

As I crossed the landing, a bright gleam came from another room, whose door was left ajar; it (the light) fell like a bar of golden sheen across my path. As I approached, the door opened, and my sister Lucy, who had been watching for me, came out. She was already in a white cashmere wrapper, over which her loosened hair hung, darkly and heavily, like tangles of silk. "Rosa, leave," she whispered, "Minnie said I can't bear the idea of your sleeping out there, all alone, in that solitary room—the very room, too, nurse Sherrard used to talk about! So, as you know Minnie has given up her room, and come to sleep in mine, still we should so wish you to stop with us to-night at any rate, and I could make up a bed on the sofa for myself or you, and—"

I stopped Lucy's mouth with a kiss. I declined her offer. I would not listen to it. In fact, my pride was up in arms, and I felt I would rather pass the night in the churchyard itself, than accept a proposal dictated, I felt sure, by the notion that my nerves were shaken by the ghostly lore we had been raking up—that I was a weak, superstitious creature, unable to pass a night in a strange chamber. So I would not listen to Lucy, but kissed her, bade her good night, and went on my way laughing, to show my light heart.

Yet, as I looked back in the dark corridor, and saw the friendly door still ajar, the yellow bar of light crossing from wall to wall, the sweet, kind face still peering after me from amid the clustering curls, I felt a thrill of sympathy, a wish to return, a yearning after human love and companionship. False shame was strongest, and conquered. I waved a gay "adieu."

I turned the corner, and peeping over my shoulder, saw the door close; the bar of yellow light was there no longer in the darkness of the passage. I thought at that instant that I heard a heavy sigh. I looked sharply round. No one was there. No door was open, yet I fancied, and fancied with a wonderful vividness, that I did hear an actual sigh breathed not far off, and plainly distinguishable from the groan of the yew-tree branches, as the wind tossed them to and fro in the outer blackness. If ever a mortal's good angel had cause to sigh for sorrow—not mine had cause to mourn that night. But imagination plays us strange tricks, and my nervous system was not overcomposed, or ever fitted for judicial analysis.

I had to go through the picture gallery. I had never entered this apartment by candle-light before, and I was struck by the gloomy array of tall portraits, gazing moodily from the canvas on the lozenge-paned or painted windows, which rattled to the blast as it swept howling by. Many of the faces looked stern, and very different from their daylight expression. In others, a furtive, flickering smile seemed to mock me, as my candle illumined them; and in all, the eyes, as usual with artistic portraits, seemed to follow my motions with a scrutiny and an interest the more marked for the apathetic immovability of the other features. I felt ill at ease under this stony gaze, though conscious how absurd were my apprehensions; and I called up a smile and an air of mirth, more as if acting a part under the eye of human beings, than of their mere shadows on the wall. I even laughed as I confronted them. No echo had my short-lived laughter but from the hollow armour and the arching roof, and I continued on my way in silence.

I have spoken of the armour. Indeed, there was a fine collection of plate and mail, for my father was an enthusiastic antiquary. In especial there were two suits of black armour, erect, and surmounted by helmets, with enclosed visors, which stood as if two mailed champions were guarding the gallery and its treasures. I had often seen these, of course, but never by night, and never when my whole organization was so overwrought and tremulous as it then was. As I approached the "black knights," as we had dubbed them, a wild notion seized on me that the figures moved—that men were concealed in the hollow shells which had once been borne in battle and tourney. I knew the idea was childish, yet I approached in irrational alarm and fancied I absolutely beheld eyes glaring on me from the eyelet-holes in the visors. I passed them by, and then my excited fancy told me that the figures were following me with stealthy strides. I heard a clatter of steel, caused, I am sure, by some violent gust of wind sweeping the gallery through the crevices of the windows, and with a smothered shriek I rushed to the door, opened it, and clapped it to with a bang that echoed through the whole wing of the house. Then, by a sudden and not uncommon revulsion of feeling, I shook off aimless tremors, blushed at my weakness, and sought my chamber only too glad that I had been the only witness of my late tremors.

As I entered my chamber, I thought I heard something stir in the neglected lumber room, which was the only neighbouring apartment. But I was deter-

mined to have no more panics, and resolutely shut my ears to this slight and transient noise, which had no other than an unimportant interest for me. I went to my window, and did not stir. I was already in a white cashmere wrapper, over which her loosened hair hung, darkly and heavily, like tangles of silk. "Rosa, leave," she whispered, "Minnie said I can't bear the idea of your sleeping out there, all alone, in that solitary room—the very room, too, nurse Sherrard used to talk about! So, as you know Minnie has given up her room, and come to sleep in mine, still we should so wish you to stop with us to-night at any rate, and I could make up a bed on the sofa for myself or you, and—"

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My maid entered, and assisted me to lay aside the dress and ornaments I had worn, and arranged my hair as usual, prattling the while in Abigail fashion. I seldom cared to converse with servants, but on that night a sort of dread of being alone—a longing to keep some human being near me—possessed me, and I encouraged the gossip, so that her duties took her half an hour longer to get through than usual. At last, however, she had done all that could be done, and all my questions were answered, and my orders for the morrow reiterated and vowed obedience to, and the clock on the turret struck one. Then Mary, yawning a little, asked if I wanted anything more, and I was obliged to answer No, for very shame's sake, and she went.

The shutting of the door, gently as it was closed, affected me unpleasantly. I took as dislike to the door curtains, the tapestry, the dingy pictures—everything I hated the room. I felt a temptation to put on a cloak, run, half dressed, to my sister's chamber, and say I had changed my mind, and come for shelter. But they must be asleep, I thought, and I could not disturb them so unkind as to wake them. I said my prayers, with unusual earnestness and a heavy heart, I extinguished the candles, and was just about to lay my head on my pillow, when the idea seized me that I had not fastened the door. The candles were extinguished, but the fire-light was amply sufficient to guide me. I gained the door. There was a lock, but it was rusty or hampered; my utmost strength could not turn the key. The bolt was broken and worthless. I balked of my intention. I consoled myself by remembering that I had never had need of fastenings before, and returned to my bed.

I lay awake for a good while, watching the red glow of the burning coals in the grate. I was quiet now, and more composed. Even the light gossip of the maid, full of petty human cares and joys, had done me good—diverted my thoughts from brooding. I was on the point of dropping asleep, when I was twice disturbed. Once by an owl, hooting in the ivy outside—a no unaccustomed sound, but harsh and melancholy; once, by a long and mournful howling set up by the mastiff, chained in the yard beyond the wing I occupied. A long-drawn, fugubrious howling was this latter, and much such a note as the vulgar denunciations to herald a death in the family. This was a sound I had never shared; but yet I could not help feeling that the dog's mournful moans were sad, and expressive of terror, not at all like his fierce, honest bark of anger, but rather as if something evil and unbidden was abroad. But soon I feel asleep.

(To be continued.)